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PLO OFFICIAL DISCUSSES PALESTINIAN-CHINESE RELATIONS

LD130903 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 4 Apr 81 p 18

[Interview with representative in Beijing Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim Mahmud by AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM correspondent in Beirut--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Recently there have been reports about relations between China and Israel. It has been said that contracts have been signed under which China will purchase arms worth \$2 billion from Israel. As a PLO representative concerned with this case what can you tell us about such reports and how true are they?

[Answer] From the beginning we have followed up these reports, which were disseminated by U.S. newspapers and magazines, including THE NEW YORK TIMES and WASHINGTON POST, and other Western papers. These papers have tried to impress upon the Palestinians and the Arabs that these reports are true.

One must first know these newspapers' objective in disseminating such reports about specific trade or diplomatic relations between China and the Zionist entity. One of their first objectives is to try to drive a wedge between the Palestinian people and the Arab peoples and the Chinese peoples, who have long been supporting the Palestinian people's struggle.

During Brother Abu Jihad's [Khalil al-Wazir] visit to China in 1980 Chairman Hua Guofeng and the Chinese foreign minister affirmed to us at the highest levels that these reports were unfounded. Therefore, the purpose is to try to undermine relations with China and distort its image in the eyes of the Palestinian revolution and masses.

Moreover, China is reducing its military budget by about \$3 billion so that this reduction in military spending will go toward raising the living standard of the Chinese people. How then can one understand these reports about the purchase of Israeli arms worth \$2 billion? As you know, the Israeli military industry is in a slump. Therefore, when China concludes such a major deal this industry will be revived and there will no longer be unemployment.

[Question] But, as the saying goes, there is no smoke without fire. The figures might be exaggerated but the world news agencies have reported visits to China by Israeli military personnel and some newspapers have published names, figures and the dates of such visits.

[Answer] We have asked Chinese officials about this, they said the reports were unfounded. They told us: We refuse to be visited by an Israeli citizen carrying an Israeli passport. But if an Israeli businessman visits us carrying a Canadian or American passport, for example, we cannot tell whether such a person is an Israeli. A person with dual nationality may be able to visit China and probably may be able to conclude commercial deals through Canadian, American or West European companies. But we do not accept visits by an Israeli citizen or businessman.

[Question] Don't you think that the crisis in Sino-Soviet relations could probably be the motive for the establishment of a certain level of relations between China and Israel?

[Answer] China has a firm and clear stand on the Palestine problem on the grounds that it is a just cause of a people who have been evicted from their homeland. But from a Chinese standpoint the situation could be quite different from that of the Palestine problem if it involved Zaire or the Horn of Africa, for example. If Chinese foreign policy is basically to confront the Soviets, we are not Soviet agents and our problem is not a Soviet problem. Our cause is one of national liberation and demands support from all friends. The Chinese stand with us in this just as the Soviets stand with us.

[Question] How would you explain China's supply of spare parts, particularly for military aircraft, to Al-Sadat when it has become clear against whom these weapons will be directed bearing in mind the alliance in the area between U.S. imperialism, Israel and Al-Sadat--an alliance which is posing a direct threat to the Libyan Jamahiriya and the Horn of Africa and eventually to the Palestinian revolution?

[Answer] You can even say that Chinese aid [to Al-Sadat] has not stopped. But this issue can be looked upon from two aspects: The Chinese support Al-Sadat's policy as long as it is against so-called Soviet influence but they do not support this policy if it is aimed at presenting itself as a substitute for the PLO and at liquidating it.

We are trying through dialogue with the Chinese to develop their stand and to tell them that it is impossible to reconcile supporting Al-Sadat militarily and rejecting Camp David.

[Question] From time to time PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasar 'Arafat visits the Soviet Union and other socialist countries but it has been a long time since he visited China. As observers we can deduce that Palestinian-Chinese relations are not on the same level as Palestinian-Soviet relations.

[Answer] There is no question that our relations with any foreign party do not follow a straight and undeviating line: there are bound to be some zigzags, twists and retreats but the trend is always toward strengthening friendship.

According to my latest information Brother Abu 'Ammar will visit China in the summer at the head of a high-level Palestinian delegation in order to strengthen and consolidate friendship between the two sides and to clarify many things relating to Palestinian-Chinese relations and China's view of the Middle East problem.

BRIEFS

PLO REPRESENTATIVE INTERVIEWED--The PLO ambassador in Tehran, Brother Salah al-Zawawi, has talked about recent Middle East developments, including the Iraqi war imposed on Iran. He said in a press interview: We are seeking an end to this destructive war and want to take it to occupied Palestine. He added: We are aware that the Islamic revolution has consistently declared its support for the Palestinian revolution and declared that it will never abandon it. Brother Salah al-Zawawi continued: Muslim Iranians realize that our struggle is aimed at achieving the most important objective of the Islamic revolution in Iran: the liberation of Jerusalem. He also said: If we were in our homeland we would have taken a more decisive stand on this war. Referring to the policy of the Reagan administration, the Palestinian ambassador said: What distinguishes Reagan is his hostility to the world's oppressed peoples. The American President is not content with providing arms to other countries but also wants to establish military bases in these countries. Referring to the fighting in Lebanon, Salah al-Zawawi said: The aim of the attacks by the Phalangists and Zionists in Lebanon is to liquidate the Palestinian revolution and inflame the situation in southern Lebanon and occupy it as far as the Al-Litani River with U.S. support. The objective of the United States, Israel and Egypt is to destroy the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national movement. Brother Salam al-Zawawi called for increased solidarity between Iran's Islamic revolution and the Palestinian revolution. [Text] [GF111152 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 11 Apr 81]

CSO: 4802

NEW TRAINING CENTERS TO DEVELOP NATIONAL ECONOMY

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 18 Feb 81 pp 3, 7

[Text] A cooperation protocol was recently signed between the Ministry of Transport and Tourism and the Higher and Vocational Education Ministry and the Soviet Ministry of Transportation. The signing took place in the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education in Kabul. For details about the protocol, a HEYWAD reporter conducted an interview with the head of the Vocational Education Department of the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education, Mr Osman, the text of which is as follows:

At the beginning, the director of the Vocational Education Department said:

It is obvious that the upgrading of the quality and quantity of our agricultural, industrial and development products as well as the welfare improvement of the people, workers and skilled technicians in all fields will play an important and vital role.

After the victory of the Sawr [21 April-21 May] revolution, and especially following its evolutionary period, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan turned its attention to the question of training skilled workers.

The signing of this agreement is the first step toward the training of skilled workers in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Up to now, no institution existed in Afghanistan in which skilled workers in all areas could be trained. As in the past, the Soviet Union has assisted us in the vocational education field, as it had done in the economic and cultural areas. This help has prepared the ground for the training of skilled workers.

We are confident that workers trained under these plans will be a major instrument for our future development. It could be claimed that this vital force will make the final victory of our revolution possible.

As in the past, to help us train skilled workers, the Soviet Union has expanded its agreements and protocols in various fields with no strings attached, and on 17 Saratan 59 [8 July 80] five agreements and protocol were signed between the Planning Department of the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education and the State Committee of Vocational Education of the Soviet Union. These are:

1. agreement to set up an agricultural training center in Mazar-e Sharif with a training capacity for 200 people;
2. agreement to set up an agricultural training center in Jalalabad with a training capacity for 200 people;
3. agreement to establish a technical training center in Kabul;
4. agreement to send 300 experts to help plan educational programs.

Also signed was an economic and technical cooperation protocol, which was the outcome of our current discussions, for the setting up of a number of vocational training centers to train skilled workers for the various fields of our national economy.

Financing of the equipment for the training centers, costing some 488,000 rubles, will be covered by the credit extended by the Soviet Union.

These centers will admit eighth graders for a 2-year course in agricultural machinery maintenance and repair. Agricultural training centers will be ready for operation in the middle of 1361 [21 Mar-22 Mar 82].

According to the agreement signed, 350 eighth grade graduates will be sent to the Soviet Union every year to receive vocational training in various fields.

The students will live according to normal standards of the Soviet Union and will receive all services free.

Specialized courses will be determined in accordance to the government's development plans.

A minimum of 25 students will register for every course and the government can, according to its needs, choose students for 77 specialized courses to be studied in the Soviet Union.

The length of the studies will differ depending on the course and will be from 1 to 2 years with 1 year spent learning the language.

It must be noted that an agreement for the sending of Soviet experts in various fields of education had also been signed according to which 65 experts will take over the job of teaching.

They will teach in Kabul, Mazar-e Sharif and Jalalabad technical institutions as well as in related institutions of the Higher Education Ministry.

All programs and theoretical subjects will be taught for 3 years under the direction of the supervisor of the vocational education department.

Under the agreement signed, a number of new vocational training centers will be established to train skilled workers needed for the development of our national economy.

Three other agreements were also signed concerning building and providing equipment for new vocational schools. Location of the schools and specialized courses to be taught will be determined later in accordance with the country's needs.

He also said:

The first group of students and school supervisors to benefit from the free Soviet assistance program has already left for the Soviet Union.

Also agreement was reached to complete our studies on the establishment of the following educational centers by the end of the current year:

1. a technical vocational school for training of 125 radio and refrigerator repairmen;
2. an institution of 500 students to train skilled workers for the home-building industry.

9561

CSO: 4906

ENERGY EXPERT REVIEWS DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION, RESOURCES

Cairo PETROLEUM in Arabic May-Jun, Jul-Aug 80, pp 26-31

[Article by Eng Ahmad Nur-al-Din: "Toward a National Program To Conserve Energy and Improve Ways of Using It"]

[Text] At a time when the industrial world is exerting concentrated efforts to reduce the growth rates of its consumption of energy in general and of oil in particular to the lowest levels -- indeed to reduce the volume of consumption if possible -- we, in Egypt, are facing a serious escalation of local energy consumption growth rates, to the point where the volume of our energy consumption in 1979 came to nearly 150 percent of its level of just 5 years before, that is, 1975. If current consumption trends continue as they are, our consumption by 1985 will have reached 232 percent of its level in 1975, and that will have a profound negative effect on our ability to develop. The only option available is for us to make serious efforts to suppress the rising consumption growth rates while preserving the ability to use our energy resources. That is something it is in our power to attain, given firm cooperation and effective coordination among all activities in the private and public contexts.

This is the essence of the contents of a talk which Eng Ahmad Nur-al-din, counsellor with the Petroleum Authority, gave at the first conference on Chemical Engineering which the League of Chemical Engineers held in the period 15-18 March 1980. We are presenting our honored readers with a thorough summary of the talk, in order to propagate its important beneficial information among people concerned with the issue of energy in Egypt.

Danger Points in Patterns of Consumption

If escalating local consumption continues at its current rates, it is expected that in 1985 local demand for refined products and natural gas will come to about 22 million tons a year, or the equivalent of four-fifths of our 1979 crude oil and natural gas production. If we take the foreign partners' share of production into account, it will immediately be clear to us that our export capacity will drop to nothing, unless the efforts now being made to raise the rates of crude oil and natural gas production are dedicated to reaching the goal of 1 million barrels a day (50 million tons a year) in the first half of the eighties. It should also be understood that attainment of this goal in the time I mentioned will be adequate to cover our local requirements and sustain our ability to export until the balance shifts in 1993 and Egypt becomes a country importing oil in increasing volumes. If -- may God not foreordain it -- the objective of 1 million barrels is not realized, most serious trouble will begin well before that.

This is the unvarnished picture. It is true that it appears that the goal of 1 million barrels is within the reach of the sincere efforts which the oil sector is exerting, but the consumption picture, as it appears today is full of gaps and wasteful aspects, and the process needed for correcting our consumption behavior cannot lie on the shoulders of the government so much as on people, individuals and institutions; this is the subject of the talk.

In order for us to come up with a practical notion together of what must be done to guide consumption patterns, we must begin with a rapid analysis of the breakdown of energy consumption in various walks of life in Egypt.

A study prepared in 1975 shows that the breakdown of consumption by sector was as follows:

Sector	Overall energy (percent)	Electric power (percent)
1. The industrial sector	29	50
2. The commercial sector	23	5
3. The household sector	21	20
4. The transportation sector	20	2
5. The agricultural sector	6	0
6. The utility and service sector	1	7
[Total]	100	100

This preliminary analysis shows that the industrial sector is the major consumer of overall energy and electric power alike. The importance of the commercial, household and transportation sectors is also apparent: it is in these four sectors that efforts to guide consumption must be concentrated since they account for a total of 93 percent of overall energy consumption and 85 percent of electric power consumption. From this overall review, we may go on to a more detailed analysis, specifying the activities from which we expect serious, active participation aimed at guiding energy consumption in a manner which will enable us to avoid the pitfalls we are headed toward by squandering the use of the energy resources available to us, of which the most important is petroleum.

The logical start for such an analysis is for us rapidly to review the development of local demand for various refined oil products and natural gas, whose total contribution to overall domestic energy demand comes to 78.3 percent, going by the figures for 1979. It is worth pointing out here that Egyptian refineries cover all of Egypt's requirements and provide an export surplus in the case of some products — except for butane, of which we import large volumes at a very high price and which the government is compelled to defray large sums to subsidize so that the consumer can obtain it at a price he can pay.

Looking at butane consumption, we find that that exceeds all other products in its rate of growth, going from 179,000 tons in 1975 to 335,000 tons in 1979, an average annual growth rate of about 18 percent. This frightening growth has been accompanied by an escalation of oil and oil product prices in the world market, which account for an enormous loss to our balance of payments. Nonetheless, we have not yet tried to do anything to control oil use or guide oil consumption, and, if things continue in this manner, our consumption of this fuel will reach an annual rate of 870,000 tons by 1985; this is something which must not be allowed to happen in view of the financial burden that represents which is estimated at about 350 million pounds in current prices.

When we move to motor gasoline, we find that the country's consumption of this surged over the past 5 years, from 656,000 tons in 1975 to 970,000 tons in 1979; it is expected that it will reach 1.2 million tons this year, 1980. This reflects an uncontrolled increase in the number of cars. Estimates show that the figure will reach 1.85 million tons in 1985 and, as a consequence, by the nature of the case, the exportable volumes of naphtha will shrink, disappearing in 1983, thereby reducing the country's foreign currency receipts by about 150 million pounds a year in current prices, assuming that refining capacity expands to produce the total volumes of extra gasoline we will need.

In the case of heavy fuel oil, also, if consumption continues at the current high rates, by 1983 exports of it, including ship barrell supplies, will have stopped, and the country will thereby lose the equivalent of 200 million pounds of foreign currency revenues a year.

When we return to the overall energy production picture, starting in 1985, we find that even if it becomes possible to discover large reserves of crude oil and natural gas — allowing production to stabilize at the level of 1 million barrels a day up to 1995 — in the first half of the nineties the country will be compelled to import large amounts of crude oil, at a level which could reach 10 million tons a year in 1995 then increasing, so that Egypt will become a country importing the bulk of its requirements, in the absence of a tangible contribution from alternative energy sources, such as nuclear power, electric power and solar energy. This is a most serious matter.

What, then are the areas of activity to which attention must be directed and on which the responsibility for seeking to conserve energy and improve energy use must fall?

First, the sector of industry, which alone absorbs 29 percent of the overall energy and 58 percent of the electric power.

Industrial activity may be broken down into six main sectors, under each of which a number of branch sectors are listed. The main sectors are iron and steel, aluminum, cement and construction material production, chemical industries, textiles and food processing.

The main and branch sectors are both distinguished by the fact that most of them are well organized and can plan realistic goals and programs which they strive to attain.

Second, the transportation sector, which consumes 20 percent of overall energy and 2 percent of electric power (by its nature). This includes railways, trams, the urban railway, trucks, tractors, means of river transport and private cars.

It is widely known that some means of transport are owned by the public sector, that consequently it is possible to plan to guide these by central methods, and that a large portion of the sector is owned by individuals on whom it is difficult to impose compulsory planning.

Third, the household and commercial sectors; these together consume about 44 percent of the overall energy and 25 percent of electric power. In these two sectors lie the most difficult tasks of guiding consumption and controlling its growth rates.

Recommended Strategies To Conserve Energy and Improve Energy Use

The lecturer recommends two types of strategy, the first for the short and medium term and the second for the long term. Regarding the short and medium term, it is necessary to work to intensify indoctrination, daily followup and training and to improve means of surveillance, measurement, testing and maintenance; finally it is necessary to improve production and maintenance systems in a manner which might require modifications or additions to equipment.

The long term strategy is based on giving preference to projects and production units which do not consume energy, to concentrate efforts on the production and use of new energy sources -- especially renewable sources -- and to devote attention to the proper use of traditional energy sources and to getting increased output from them.

The lecturer gives numerous examples of areas and technologies for conserving energy in various sectors, of which we might mention:

One: In the Industrial Sector

1. The iron and steel industry.

In the short and medium term, it is possible to work to improve heat insulation methods and materials in the light of new energy economics to benefit from losses in the heat used, increase the use of scrap iron and concentrate iron ore.

In the long range, it will be possible to follow the continuous casting method and use processed coal rather than coke, expand the use of oxygen-base furnaces, and incorporate high oven units into the steel production unit.

2. The aluminum industry.

In the short and medium term, it is possible to use electric cells with a lower current concentration, follow a new technology to reduce energy consumption in the manufacture of positive rods, and strive to make use of the heat lost from furnaces and improve heat insulation.

In the long term, it is necessary to use new technology to produce aluminum from bauxite ore directly and to use petroleum coke, which is expected to be produced locally, instead of imported coal in the manufacturing of rods.

3. The cement industry.

In the short and medium term, it is necessary to seek to conserve energy consumed in milling cement beyond specified requirements, improve electric power plants in cement factories and improve the heat insulation methods in cement kilns in the light of new economics.

In the long run, it is necessary to use the dry method in projects to expand or replace existing plants and it is necessary to use cheaper fuel in the cement kilns and reduce the proportion of cement in concrete mixers by using technology and new additives.

Two: In the Transport Sector

In the short and medium term, the lecturer recommends expanding the use of means of water transport for passengers and cargoes and increasing railway resources for the same purpose. In another area, he considers it necessary to suspend the use of trolleys in the city of Cairo, to provide large garages in buildings in major cities, to apply radical solutions to traffic problems, to issue bills limiting speeds of cars and trucks on expressways, setting their maximum at 100 kilometers an hour, and to avoid issuing permits for old cars, in view of their high rates of fuel consumption.

In the long term, it is possible to impose restrictions on gasoline and diesel consumption in private cars and hasten to carry out the subway project, although confining it to a single belt subway.

Three: The Household and Commercial Sectors

In the short and medium terms, it is necessary to use fluorescent and sodium lamps, intensify efforts to produce modern stoves, heating equipment and refrigerators using kerosene instead of electricity or butane, increase taxes on large imported refrigerators and butane stoves, produce electric lamp reflectors with attractive designs at low prices, and impose restrictions on the sale of butane for stores and increased household consumption.

In the long term, it is necessary to accelerate the replacement of butane with natural gas in residential areas and new towns and it is necessary to encourage the use of solar power in new complexes, hospitals and hotels and remote areas and in the operation of irrigation pumps and crop drying activities, and accelerate the use of animal and human waste to generate organic gas in villages and residential complexes remote from natural gas systems.

Four: The Energy Production Sectors

A. The Petroleum Sector.

A dual responsibility lies on this sector: In the realm of exploration and production, the sector must seek to develop and expand Egypt's crude oil and natural gas resource base. The lecturer considers that it is necessary to hasten to complete the studies bearing on the determination of conformed reserves and the use of secondary recovery methods to increase rates of production from existing and new fields, tighten surveillance over crude oil and natural gas storage and transportation operations, use modern types of drilling muds, eliminate water from crude and strive to increase the accreditation of technicians in the field of the use of the technology of exploration and drilling activities in deep, complex deposits.

In the realm of refining and distribution, it is necessary to intensify daily surveillance, follow up on repair and maintenance activities, prevent leaks, improve systems for gathering and reusing wastes, improving steam and condenser systems, examine, renovate and maintain steam traps, develop insulation methods and materials used in the context of new energy economics, and use the heat lost in the stacks of furnaces and boilers. It is also necessary to review heat exchange, cooling and condenser complexes in the light of new energy economics, and it is also necessary to use modern maintenance methods and to develop existing maintenance systems and equipment. It is, in addition, essential closely to observe the operation of furnaces, boilers and towers and modify them whenever the situation so requires. Last but not least, it is necessary to conduct tests to estimate heat levels in heating and fractionating units and determine the rate of heat loss during their operation at various capacities, with the goal of carrying out improvements in order to make use of the lost heat.

B. The Electricity Sector.

The first thing the lecturer recommends is to stop operating old low capacity thermal plants, then seek to improve the combustion efficiency of and use the heat lost in, the boilers of existing thermal plants and improve heat insulation methods and materials in the light of new energy economics. As regards new thermal plants, it is necessary to use bigger capacities while giving preference to common circuits and develop maintenance methods now being followed in hydraulic and thermal training, renovate medium and low-voltage systems as soon as possible to reduce the high rates of leaking and annual increases and adopt measures to guarantee that electric power theft is limited.

The lecturer moves from these technical recommendations to a number of recommendations of a general economic character which are firmly linked to strategies for conserving energy. One may summarize these by the following specific points:

1. Priorities in development projects.

People in charge of planning and approving future development plans must note that the era of cheap electricity ended in Egypt in 1970, when the High Dam generating plant was built.

While it was reasonable to base previous development plans on foundations of expanding basic strategic energy-consuming industries such as the iron and steel,

aluminum, KIMA fertilizer, and basic petrochemical industries, it is now necessary to spell out alternative general policies oriented toward the expansion of industries which do not consume energy, such as machinery and supplementary petrochemical industries and technical service, tourist and food processing projects and to use crude oil and oil product export revenues to purchase basic products from neighboring markets. Since the country's requirements for large financial investments will extend for a long period in this century, it would be more economically feasible to divert attention to industrial projects, service projects and utilities which do not need big financial investments so that their annual revenues will not dwindle as a consequence of the financial burdens arising from borrowing from abroad.

2. Deleterious effects of continuing the current subsidization of local energy prices.

In addition to the financial burden which the government is now bearing as a consequence of supplying oil products and electricity at subsidized prices, its effect on increasing the disruption in the balance of payments with each passing year and the loss of alternative opportunities to export some products consumed abroad at high rates, there are other effects in continuing the subsidization at its current volume.

One of these effects is related to strategies of retaining traditional energy, since the factor influencing economies in consuming electricity or oil products or substituting them by new types of energy will be the "element of price." How can one determine the high economic feasibility of substituting one item of equipment consuming energy for another and achieve greater savings if the price of the local fuel is 10 times below its world price for it? Why should an ordinary citizen replace an electric or butane heater with a solar one if it is not made very clear to him that he will realize great monthly savings as a result of this substitution?

3. The need to give attention to development of national consciousness and training.

Perhaps the quickest means to realize great success in programs of economizing energy consumption and improving energy use efficiency is to concentrate on developing national consciousness among people supervising units consuming or producing energy and people working in the production and maintenance fields in those units.

The enthusiasm which it is hoped will increase at all levels of supervision in these units must be accompanied by the presence of knowledge, expertise and basic information in order to realize achievements or effective surveillance in order to attain major results in the shortest possible time.

To this end, it is necessary that the various economic sectors prepare periodic programs to inform people responsible for and working in energy units of the goals to be achieved and new means for realizing the greatest possible savings in various types of energy consumption in these units. It is also necessary that these

Table One: Summary of the Development of Local Secondary Transformed Energy Consumption during the Period 1975-79

Data-Year	Petroleum Energy: Oil Products and Natural Gas (1)	Million Tons of Oil Equivalent (2)	Generation: Hydraulic Power Kilowatt Hours (3)	Million Tons of Oil Equivalent (Supply) (4)	Total Energy Transformed Million tons of Oil Equivalent (2+4)	Annual Growth Rate (Per-cent)	Petroleum Energy Share (Per-cent)
1975	7.00	7.15	6.79	3.33	9.48	—	75.4
1976	7.75	7.92	8.00	2.68	10.68	12.6	74.2
1977	8.62	8.93	9.04	2.96	12.00	12.3	74.4
1978	9.52	9.80	9.93	3.26	13.06	8.8	75.0
1979	10.59	10.92	9.61	3.02	13.94	6.7	78.3
Average Annual Growth					10.1		

Table Two: Development of Annual Rates of Consumption of Oil Products and Gas in the Years 1975-1985

Years	Directly Refined Products* Volume	Per-cent- age	Direct Gas*	Total Direct Petroleum Products* Volume	Per-cent- age	Total Refined Products Volume	Per-cent- age	Total Gas	Total Oil Products Volume	Per-cent- age
1975	5,908	8.5	37	5,945	9.35	6,973	9.8	37	7,010	10.5
1976	6,411	4.8	90	6,501	8.9	7,659	7.8	90	7,749	11.3
1977	6,720	6.4	362	7,082	9.4	8,260	8	362	8,622	15.3
1978	7,152	1.4	596	7,748	1.0	8,922	4.5	596	9,518	7.1
1979	7,255	14.1	726	7,981	18.1	9,325	16.4	872	10,197	25.1
1980	8,280	1.5	1,152	9,432	5.9	10,850	2.0	1,912	12,762	7.4
1981	8,400	8.2	1,592	9,992	10.5	11,070	11.9	2,638	13,708	13.3
1982	9,090	7.8	1,952	11,042	8.8	12,390	11.5	3,142	15,532	15.6
1983	9,800	8.6	2,216	12,016	9.2	13,810	11.6	4,146	17,956	16.3
1984	10,640	7.0	2,480	13,120	6.3	15,410	7.9	5,150	20,860	4.8
1985	11,390		2,560	16,630		5,230		21,859		
Annual Average		6.8			8.9		9.1			12.1

* [sic] To analyze the degree of accuracy of estimates on future years and their correspondence with the growth rates in the desired economic development.

*Excluding electricity consumption, but including bunker fuel for supplying Egyptian ships.

programs be accompanied by training courses to give people in various levels accreditation in the means of study, followup and development used in industrial countries and the results they have achieved.

4. The need to plan programs with specific annual goals in various sectors.

In order to make it possible to realize rapid results in conserving energy and improve methods of energy use, it is necessary that the energy consuming and producing sectors adopt planning for programs with specific objectives to be broken down among subordinate branch activities, then have a central authority to take charge of following up on the execution of these programs, attain the goals that have been spelled out, and help resolve problems and bottlenecks which will prevent the realization of these goals within the specified times.

In accordance with the nature of the equipment and resources which can be made available to carry them out in each sector, these programs may be broken down into tentative programs, one for the short range (1 or 2 years), another for the medium range (3 to 5 years) and a third for the long range (6 to 10 years). It is necessary to specify set dates for the acquisition of periodic followup reports to be provided to people at higher levels spelling out the positive results which can be achieved and the objective in achieving them in the coming period, along with an analysis of the reasons for the delay in execution, means for overcoming problems and restrictions expected to be encountered, and the authorizations and auxiliary resources to be approved.

5. The importance of establishing a central agency to plan energy affairs.

In order to plan energy affairs over the medium and long term in an integrated fashion, eliminating possibilities of duplication or deficiency, it is necessary to form an agency which will be completely free to carry out the studies necessary for that and to recommend general policies, and deterrent and encouraging and executive bills to carry these policies out and realize their goals in the appropriate times.

It is necessary that this agency be given financial and human resources sufficient for gathering, analyzing and retrieving data in the fields of energy exploration, transformation and consumption in various economic sectors. It is also necessary that it be given full powers to create channels of communication with organized economic sectors and bodies in charge of individual or quasi-individual economic sectors, in order to recommend sectoral bills and policies which must be adopted to obtain rapid results, document data on the various sectors, follow up on the planning and execution which has taken place in the case of programs to conserve energy and improve the efficiency of energy use in these sectors.

The Desired Results

The lecturer ends up with a group of provocative conclusions. If it is possible to carry out his recommendations wholly or in part, according to the conclusions detailed studies will produce, where savings in crude oil volumes will range from 6.4 to 16.4 million tons in 1985 and the volume of crude available for export will

increase by between 14 million tons (without carrying out the recommendations) to between a minimum of 20.4 and a maximum of 30 million tons assuming that the goals of 1 million barrels a day is met in the first half of the eighties; the lecturer considers that execution of the technical recommendations he set out in his lecture by the various sectors can reduce the volume of refined petroleum products consumption by between 3.8 and 8.1 million tons from the 1985 estimates, that is, by from 23 to slightly less than 50 percent. The rate of savings will increase greatly if it is possible to increase natural gas output and replace that for oil where possible. This will give great scope for the hope of avoiding the critical situation we may be faced with if we do not take the initiative, starting now, to determine to show the requisite concern in our use of energy materials. God is the guarantor of success.

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CSO: 4802

NATION'S ENERGY CONSUMPTION PATTERN PROFILED

Cairo PETROLEUM in Arabic May-Jun, Jul-Aug 80 pp 32, 33

[Article by Muhsin Muhammad al-Qasabji: "Energy Consumption in Egypt"]

[Text] This study provides an analytical review of the development of energy consumption rates in the Arab Republic of Egypt in its totality and details over the last 5 years (1975-79). In order to give a complete picture of this development, the study, in reviewing the developments in consumption, makes a distinction between three types of energy, in accordance with the following, with emphasis on the energy ultimately used:

A. Secondary Transformed Energy

This is the available energy embodied in refined oil and natural gas products and electric power produced by thermal and hydraulic generation. Table One shows a summary of the development of local consumption of secondary transformed energy in the period 1975-79.

Table One: Development of Local Consumption of Primary Energy, 1975-79: Unit, millions of tons of oil equivalent

Year	Crude Oil	Natural gas	Total primary petroleum energy	Primary hydraulic power	Total primary energy
1975	7.49	0.043	7.53	2.33	9.86
1976	8.24	0.105	8.34	2.68	11.02
1977	8.96	0.44	9.40	2.96	12.36
1978	9.61	0.70	10.31	3.26	13.57
1979	10.61	0.89	11.50	3.02	14.52

Transformation rates: crude oil, 95 percent; natural gas, 95 percent [sic].

B. Primary Energy

This is the energy embodied in the volumes of crude oil, natural gas and electricity transformed annually in this period for purposes of providing local consumption requirements only of the energy ultimately used. Table One shows the development of local consumption of primary energy in the period 1975-79 on a basis of transformation rates used of 95 percent in the case of crude oil and 35 percent in the case of natural gas.

C. Energy Ultimately Used

This energy is represented by petroleum products and electricity sold to economic sectors consuming energy. In converting units of electricity sold into common units of energy (oil equivalent), the following overall transformation rates are used:

Thermal production in:	Production	Transportation and distribution
Steam turbines	23 percent	85 percent
Hydraulic turbines	20 percent	85 percent
Gas turbines	20 percent	85 percent

Table Two shows the development of total consumption of this energy in the past 5 years and its annual consumption rates.

Table Two: Development of Energy Ultimately Used in 1975-79 (million tons of oil equivalent)

Year	Products Directly Refined	Natural Gas for Industry	Electricity Sold	Total Energy Consumed
1975	6.08	0.04	0.796	6.92
Percent	78.9	0.6	11.5	100
1976	6.60	0.10	0.901	7.6
Percent	86.8	1.3	11.9	100
1977	6.93	0.4	1.033	8.36
Percent	82.9	4.8	12.3	100
1978	7.41	0.66	1.129	9.2
Percent	80.5	7.2	12.3	100
1979	7.87	0.85	1.226	9.94
Percent	79.2	8.5	12.3	100

It is apparent from the table that the consumption of this energy has risen from about 6.9 million tons of oil equivalent in 1975 to about 9.9 million tons in 1979, a total increase of about 43 percent and an average annual growth rate of 9.5 percent. The share of oil products in November ranged from 87.7 and 88.5 percent of this energy during this period.

Oil Products Consumption

It is to be noted that butane consumption accounted for the biggest rate of consumption increase among the various petroleum products in the past 5 years, recording a growth rate of approximately 17 percent a year on the average, as did the consumption of heavy fuel oil used in thermal electric power generation, whose growth rate came to about 18.1 percent on the average. After that came motor gasoline consumption, whose growth rate came to about 12 percent on the average. The rate of growth of kerosene consumption ranged from just 4 to 7 percent in this period.

Sectoral Energy Consumption Breakdown

According to a study made by a joint American-Egyptian committee on the breakdown of the consumption of energy ultimately used among various sectors of the economy in 1975, it is clear that the industrial sector was the main consumer of the energy finally used in 1975; its rate of consumption came to about 2.1 million tons of oil equivalent, which accounts for about 29 percent of total consumption of energy ultimately used. This sector was also the main consumer of electric power sold that year; its consumption rate came to about 85 percent of the total consumption of that power.

The commercial sector came in second place; its rate of consumption came to about 1.6 million tons of oil equivalent, which accounts for about 23 percent of total consumption.

The household and transportation sectors' share of total consumption is about equal; the household sector's consumption rate is about 21 percent, and that of the transportation sector about 20 percent; the agricultural sector's share of consumption came only to about 6 percent of total consumption.

Table Three shows the main economic sectors' share of total consumption of the energy ultimately used in the form of electricity and oil products:

Table Three: Various Economic Sectors' Share of Energy Consumption

Sector/Description	Electricity	Direct Products	Natural Gas	Total
Industrial sector	58	22	100	29
Commercial sector	5	26	—	23
Household sector	20	22	—	21
Transportation sector	2	24	—	20
Agricultural sector	8	6	—	6
Public utility sector	7	—	—	1
<u>Total</u>	100	100	100	100

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SUEZ GULF RESOURCES TABULATED

Cairo PETROLEUM in Arabic May-Jun, Jul-Aug 80 pp 34-37

[Article by Eng Shawqi 'Abidin: "Gulf of Suez: The Offshore Areas and Their Oil Potential"]

[Text] On 26 November 1979, Egypt reacquired the southern Jara offshore area which constitutes the southeastern portion of the Gulf of Suez and is about 1,500 square kilometers in area. In it lies the Shu'ayb 'Ali offshore field, the only oilfield Israel discovered, in 1978, during its occupation of Sina', naming it the Alma field. Through this reacquisition, Egypt has regained in full its control over the eastern half of the waters of the gulf, which was under Israeli dominance since the 1967 aggression. This occurred in a number of stages, with the progression of stages of Israeli withdrawal following the October 1973 victory, as a result of the Separation of Forces Agreement and the recent peace treaty of 1979.

The First Stage: The Northern Segment

At the end of 1975 Egypt reacquired the northern segment of the gulf, the region lying between Suez to the north and the Belayim offshore field to the south, comprising all Egyptian fields in the southeast of the gulf, Sudr, 'Asal, Matarimah, Abu Rudays and Belayim.

The Second Stage: the Central Segment

This occurred in mid-1979, when Israel withdrew from the central section of the gulf stretching south of the Belayim field to Ra's Jara; this section is called the South Belayim area.

The Third Stage: the Southern Segment

That was last November and covers the south Jara offshore area.

Offshore Exploration Activity in the Gulf

It is well known that offshore oil exploration activities in the waters of the gulf started at the end of the fifties and were crowned with success with the discovery of the Belayim offshore field in 1961, the discovery of the Jara field in

1964, and the discovery of the 'Amir and great El Morgan fields in 1965. Only a few months passed following the start of production activities in El Morgan when the 1967 war broke out, one consequence of which was the suspension of offshore exploration operations in the eastern half of the gulf; these operations were confined to the accessible western half of it.

While we say that oil exploration operations were concentrated in the western waters of the gulf because of circumstances of war, the fact is that these operations did not extend with the same intensity throughout the northern and southern extremities of this segment, as we can see when we look at a map of the locations of exploratory wells on the gulf. We find that most of these wells are in an area roughly lying between latitudes 28 and 29 degrees 45 minutes.

One could state that this area is confined by the Belayim offshore field to the north and the Jara field to the south, covering a distance of just 100 kilometers, that is, one third the length of the whole gulf.

The discovery of the five offshore fields mentioned above in the first half of the sixties attracted people's attention and caused them to concentrate exploration in this region specifically, in an attempt to discover further fields; especially when we add to that the point that most of the onshore fields, like Gharib, Bakr, Karim and others, lie on the west coast across from these offshore fields, we can find an explanation for the exploration activity in this region. This effort actually did bear fruit in the discovery of the July and Ramadan fields in the mid-seventies, followed by the discovery of the 300 and 382 fields. These four offshore fields added about 850 million barrels of oil to recoverable reserves (reserves which can be extracted); thus the total reserves in the offshore fields in the Gulf of Suez, all of which lay in this area, came to about 2.5 billion barrels. Thus, between the time offshore exploratory drilling activities began, in Belayim in 1961, and 1967, the total number of offshore exploratory wells in the Gulf of Suez came to about 60, 50 of which were in the area lying between Belayim and Jara, and, as mentioned above, most of these wells were in the western half of this area. These efforts resulted in the discovery of nine oilfields, and they all contributed 75 to 85 percent of Egypt's oil output with the exception of the Jara field.

A New Stage in Exploration

1. The northern area.

With the start of 1977, following the reacquisition of the northern segment of the gulf, a new oil exploration stage began in the waters of the Gulf of Suez when Gupco began drilling the first well in this region, 195, which lies about 12 kilometers from the Abu Rudeys field on the east coast. After just a few months, the well made a commercial discovery in a Nubian sandstone oil-bearing zone about 500 feet thick at a depth of 11,000 feet. That was the first discovery in the gulf north of the Belayim field. Early the next year, 1978, the Deminex company managed to come upon another find, in block 85 about 15 kilometers northeast of the Gupco discovery and a few kilometers from the east coast of the gulf, in a formation resembling that at 195. However, the oil zone in the Deminex discovery was more than 1,200 feet thick. The same year, Gupco announced oil discoveries at two

other sites, 185 and 173, in two other formations along one axis close to the first one, followed by another discovery in Block 196 in the same area. Thus, in less than 3 years from the start of drilling activities in the northern area, five commercial discoveries were made in the eastern segment of the area, as a result of the massive exploration efforts the Deminor and Gupco companies made, which included seismic survey coverage of the whole area. In addition, 25 exploratory wells have been drilled in the 40 months since drilling activities began in January 1977; the first fruits of the production in the area, from the 195 field, total about 40,000 barrels a day. It is anticipated that the rest of these discoveries will be developed and put into production this year. The recoverable reserves in these new discoveries in the northern area are estimated at about 600 million barrels, and further discoveries are to be expected in the area with increased exploration activities and the proliferation of operating companies in coming years.

2. The south Belayim area.

Exploration activities in this area began as soon as it was reacquired in the middle of last year. The area lies within the Amoco and Gupco company exploration areas. Detailed seismic survey activities were recently made in its deep and shallow areas and the results showed the existence of a large number of geological formations suitable for exploratory drilling. Adding to the importance of these formations is the fact that they are situated in the eastern part of the abovementioned area, between Belayim and Jara; these include the El Morgan, Ramadan and July fields.

On 1 April 1980 drilling activities in the area began in the southern portion in Block 365 after it was reacquired. The well penetrated a zone of oil sands. The preliminary results of the drilling of this well in the 365 block are similar to previous results in the drilling of field 382 and well 373 in terms of the geology, type of formation and oil zone; by the time these lines were written, no evaluation has been made of the results of this new discovery in the area.

3. The south Jara area.

Work programs for a seismic survey in this area have been set out. It is anticipated that that will start at the end of this year and will take some time, because of problems in the area posed by the presence of many coral reefs in it. However, development operations in the Shu'ab 'Ali field, which lies in the northern part of the area, started as soon as the field was handed over. In May 1980, drilling started on the first well to determine the northern extension of the field. Production in the field now comes to about 20,000 barrels a day.

Summary

There still is much exploratory activity to be done in the search for oil off shore in the gulf. One can say that the efforts which have been made in the past 20 years have only covered less than half the offshore gulf area, and while these efforts have succeeded in realizing the discovery of oil in 13 offshore formations, of which nine are now producing, while the rest are being developed, and recoverable reserves of 3.1 billion barrels have been proved, the hopes that

future efforts will result in the discovery of reserves which equal, if not surpass, those which have been found so far are great. This will require an intensification of effort, urging the operating companies on to more exploratory drilling activity. One should realize that the number of offshore exploratory wells drilled in the gulf over the past 20 years is not much greater than 100, which represents a very insignificant figure relative to the importance of the area in terms of oil. Here it is worth pointing to the policy of a multiplicity of companies operating in the gulf which the petroleum sector is carrying out; the companies now total 10, while in the early seventies only the Oriental Company and Amoco Company were operating in the gulf. This multiplicity has the effect of moving exploration activities forward toward the desired hopes.

Finally, geological problems in the gulf require that greater cooperation take place among operating companies in terms of exchanging common information and experience. Here is where the role of the Petroleum Authority in adopting this policy comes in, even if only to modify existing agreements and laws.

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OIL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES IN FIRST HALF OF 1980 LISTED

Cairo PETROLEUM in Arabic May-Jun, Jul-Aug 80 pp 61-63

[Article by Samihah Isma'il: "Oil in the Arab Republic of Egypt: Oil Activity In the First Half of 1980"]

[Text] In the first half of 1980 (January-June), the Egyptian oil industry realized the following figures:

Crude oil production: Crude oil production came to 14,254,000 tons, as compared with the target of 13,694,000 tons, or an increase of 560,000 tons and 4 percent [above target], and an increase of 1,572,000 tons and 12 percent over the same period of the previous year.

In addition, output exceeded target by 1 percent in the case of the General [Company], 8 percent in the case of Gupco (Gulf of Suez) and 16 percent in the case of Wepco.

Liquid petroleum gas: Gas production came to 727,000 tons as compared with a target of 632,000 tons, or an increase of 95,000 tons and 15 percent [above target], as compared with 358,000 tons in the same period of 1979, or an increase of 369,000 tons and 103 percent.

Condensate: In the first half of 1980, 135,000 tons were produced as compared with a target of 101,000 tons and 71,000 tons in the same period of the previous year.

Gharadiq butane: 31,000 tons were separated in the Dahshur plant, as compared with a target of 18,000 tons and 17,000 tons in the same period of 1979.

Foreign Trade

Exports: The value of exports came to 957 million pounds, as compared with a target of 714 million pounds, an increase [over target] of 243 million pounds or 34 percent. In addition, exports in comparison with the first half of the previous year increased by 554 million pounds or 137 percent; this great increase may be attributed to several factors, most important of which were:

The growth in the volume of exports.

The increase in world prices.

Imports: The value of imports came to 119 million pounds as compared with a target of 208 million pounds, for savings of 89 million pounds or 43 percent, in comparison with the same period of the previous year. Imports increased by about 43 million pounds and 56 percent.

Balance of payments: The balance of payments surplus in the first half of 1980 therefore came to about 838 million pounds, as compared with a target of 506 million pounds, or an increase [above target] of 332 million pounds, or 66 percent, as well as an increase above the same period of the preceding year of 511 million pounds and 156 percent.

Refinery Output

The volume of crude treated came to 6,939,000 tons as compared with a target of 6.97 million, or a shortfall of 5 percent. In addition, the volume of crude treated in comparison with the same period of the previous year increased by about 793,000 tons or 13 percent.

Products

In view of the difference between the crude actually refined and the target, the output of butane, gasoline and some middle distillates increased.

Petroleum Products Consumption

Butane: Consumption fell short of target by 3 percent, while the increase over the same period of the preceding year came to 16 percent, in view of the increasing receptivity to the use of butane fuels and the widespread use of butagaz in workshops and rural industries.

Gasoline: Consumption fell short of target by 2 percent and increased above the same period of the previous year by 11 percent because of the large increase in the number of cars circulating on the roads.

Kerosene: Consumption fell short of target by 5 percent and increased by 8 percent over the same period of the previous year.

Middle distillates and diesel: Consumption fell short of target by 4 percent and increased over the same period of the previous year by 15 percent because of the rise in transportation, reconstruction and self sufficiency in food project activity.

Heavy fuel oil: Consumption fell short of target by 15 percent and increased over the same period of the previous year by 5 percent because of the rise in electricity sector consumption.

Report on the Followup of Execution of 1980 Plan Projects for the Period January-June 1980

Total investments made during the period came to 69,752,000 pounds or 50 percent of the total investments allotted to the sector in 1980, which totalled 139 million pounds, as is apparent in the following table (unit, thousands of pounds):

Category	Stipulated for the January-June Period	Authorized for 1980	Executed During the Period	Percentage Executed For the Period	Percentage Executed For the Year
Exploration and production sector	12,941	39,750	15,502	120	39
Refining and pro- cessing sector	16,934	38,130	28,553	169	75
Transportation and distribution sector	21,651	61,120	25,697	119	42
General total	51,526	139,000	69,752	135	50

Financial Affairs

General assemblies of petroleum sector companies: General assemblies of public sector petroleum companies were convened under the chairmanship of the deputy prime minister and minister of petroleum in the period 4 June 1980 to 15 June 1980 in the headquarters of the companies to discuss reports by these companies' boards of directors and budgets, current operating accounts and operating revenues for the fiscal year ending 31 December 1979. At these meetings, the budgets, current operating accounts and profit distribution accounts were approved, the cash distributions from profits and supplementary bonuses to people working in these companies were approved, and the periodic raises to which they were entitled on 1 January 1981 of 100 percent were approved.

In addition, the public sector petroleum companies and the authority's shares of joint ventures in 1979 realized good results in comparison with targets and the previous year which we may summarize as follows:

1. An increase of 4 percent above target and 8 percent above the previous year in quantities of crude oil produced.
2. An increase of 2 percent above target and 3 percent above the previous year in volumes of crude refined.
3. An increase of 14 percent above the previous year in value of production (in fixed prices).

4. An increase of 60 percent above target and 307 percent above the previous year in value of total sales.
5. An increase of 93 percent above target and 243 percent above the previous year in value of exports.
6. An increase of 197 percent above target and 264 percent above the previous year in net profits from current activity.
7. An increase of 93 percent above target and 243 percent above the previous year in net value added.
8. An increase of 43 percent above target and 130 percent above the previous year in the per-wage productivity of all workers (including training).

Exploration and Discoveries

Discovery of new oil in the West Bakr area: On 15 September 1980 Eng Ahmad 'Izz-al-Din Hilal, deputy prime minister for production and minister of petroleum, inaugurated a new oilfield in the West Bakr area of the Eastern Desert. This field was discovered as a result of cooperation among the Egyptian General Petroleum Authority, the General Petroleum Company and the Japanese Oil Development Company (Jepedeco).

Current output from the field totals 3,400 barrels per day and it is expected that this output will come to about 7,000 barrels a day in a year.

Participating in the ceremony were Japan's ambassador to Cairo, a number of Japanese businessmen doing the financing and petroleum sector leaders.

Seismic Crew Activities in the First Half of 1980

In the first half of 1980, seismic survey teams carried out the following activity:

One, Gulf of Suez: During this period exploration company activity in the offshore Gulf of Suez intensified; deep and shallow water survey vessels carried out a total of 4,051 kilometers of seismic survey lines, for a total activity of 10.25 crew months, in the Shuqayr offshore, south Jara, south Belayim, al-Za'faranah, al-Durj, Nabawi, West al-Zayt, al-Anal and eastern and western Gulf of Suez areas.

Two, the Western Desert: Two seismic survey teams carried out total surveys of 1,135 kilometers for a total activity of eight crew months in the Sitra, Badr-al-Din, al-Buhayrah and Maryut areas.

Three, the Eastern Desert: One survey team carried out a survey of 160 kilometers, for a total activity of 1.4 crew months, in the Ra's al-Bahar area.

Four, the Delta: Two onshore seismic survey teams worked in the al-Husaynah, Kafr al-Shaykh, and al-Manzalah areas, carrying out seismic surveys on 853 kilometers of lines, for a total activity of 10 crew months.

Five, Sinai: The seismic survey crew belonging to Western Geophysical Company started carrying out a joint program in the al-Qa' Plain and Ra's al-Sabil areas, making a total survey of 337 kilometers or a total activity of 3 crew months.

Sixth, northern offshore Sinai: The offshore seismic program was completed in sections three, four, five and six: one offshore seismic survey vessel made a total survey of 3,334 kilometers for a total activity of 1.4 crew months.

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PANEL SURVEYS STATUS OF ELECTRICITY EXPANSION IN COUNTRY

Cairo AL-NURAM in Arabic 9 Jan 81 p 17

[Article: "Electricity: Where from and Who or, First of All?"]

[Text] When the world came up with the discovery of electricity, a revolution occurred which shook the whole planet. All states of equilibrium were disrupted and the currents of civilization began to surge at high speed, realizing progress for man and striving toward his well-being. Just as the discovery was "something astonishing and amazing" at that time, so it is today an inevitable necessity, to the point where scientists say "there can be no development without electricity." For this reason, when we learn that electricity will be introduced into all the main villages in Egypt this year and that in 6 years it will enter every estate and hamlet that is truly gladdening!

While the advent of electricity is a great matter in "bringing light," what is more important is that it "brings civilization" and helps create development. However, in order for it to do so, its output must be multiplied so that it can provide the necessary requisite power for all spheres of life. By the average estimates, in 2000 we will need 100 billion kilowatt hours; where will we get them from? What are the limits of the struggle over the challenge we must inevitably enter into as of now? What are the priorities which we will begin with taking into account not just the material costs of the "project" but also its general yield and the positive effects it will entail in realizing gains in other activities?

The issue, with its broad scope, is highly important. While it draws the attention of the ordinary person when the "light" is suddenly cut off at an embarrassing moment in his home, it also attracts the interest of the big factory which loses thousands of pounds for every moment of darkness it witnesses, and also affects the planner who draws up the features of the future, with its industrial and agricultural components and other fields of production and services. That is, it puts us all in the spotlight of which it is the source!

The symposium started with a statement in which Eng Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity, reviewed the basic features of power strategy in Egypt and the projects to be carried out this year, which are:

1. al-Mahmadiyah: a gas generating plant running on natural gas from the Abu Qir field with a capacity of 200 megawatts (that is 200,000 kilowatts), to rise to 300 megawatts. Work on this is being completed and it will start operating before the end of 1981.

2. Abu Qir: a generating plant on gas from the same field, with a capacity of 600 megawatts; work on this will be completed in 1982.
3. al-Isma'iliyah: a gas plant using gases emitted by the Suez refinery with a capacity of 300 megawatts which will increase to 450. This will be completed in 1982.
4. Suez: a gas plant fed by the same source with the same capacity, also to be completed in 1982.
5. Aswan: this is a hydraulic plant whose construction will start this year; it will also be completed in 1982.
6. Shubra al-Khaymah: this is the biggest of the thermal plants; it will be erected in place of the old plant, known as al-Shargawiyah, and its capacity will total 900 megawatts. It will be put up for international construction bids next month, and is expected to be completed in 1984.
7. A plant under study in southern Cairo in the town of al-Karimat near al-Saff. This is a thermal plant whose capacity will total 600 megawatts.
8. This year a transformer station will be constructed in Sinai and will be operating at the end of next year, in 20 months' time, with a capacity of 40 megawatts, to supply the area around it, which is east of the Bitter Lakes, where a project is being carried out to reclaim 30,000 feddans and construct the village of New Mit Abu-al-Kawm. This is considered the first plant east of the canal.

AL-NHAM: What about the project to use the coal from al-Magharah in Sinai?

The minister of electricity: A special committee has been formed with Dr 'Imad al-Shargawi as chairman to discuss this issue and study the type and quantity of coal, the amount industry will require and the amount that will remain which could be used in building a thermal plant. The committee is also studying the proposed location for the site of this plant. In addition to that, just today I was discussing the possibility of using the natural gas present at Abu Rudays to construct gas plants with Eng Ahmad 'Izz-al-Din Hilal, the deputy prime minister, and we agreed to continue the technical study of the project. In addition to that, we are studying a big project to link up Sinai with the general 320-kilovolt Egyptian electric grid. Therefore, when the Ahmad Hamdi tunnel was designed, we demanded that two places be set aside for two cables. This has actually happened, and we will supply the two cables with 220 volts and connect the grid to al-'Arish and Ra's Muhammad and supplement it up to Abu Rudays. In addition, we will lay new lines to Suez, al-Isma'iliyah and Port Said and will finish it this year.

In all this, we are racing against time, since in Egypt we are now consuming 18 billion kilowatt hours per year, of which industry takes 60 percent and household consumption and street lighting 30 percent; the rest, 10 percent, is consumed by public utilities, including water and the radio and television station. Greater Cairo alone consumes about 40 percent of the total figure. This is our situation today; our need will increase in the future and we are therefore building new plants,

but in 2000, by moderate estimates, we will need 100 billion kilowatt hours! Where will we get them from? The High Dam and the hydraulic stations, including the Qattarah Depression, will give us about 16 billion and the thermal plants about 50 billion; thus there remain 34 billion which we will have to obtain from nuclear plants.

It is unreasonable for us to build thermal plants relying on oil products, because we buy heavy fuel oil from the Ministry of Petroleum at 7.5 pounds a ton, that is, about \$10, while its price on the world market is \$280 — that is, we would be wasting our resources, which is contrary to the case with nuclear plants, which we must certainly start immediately building after completing the start of the current projects, that is, in the second half of this year. There are seven plants whose sites have been determined in our plan.

AL-NHRAM: The first site, in Sidi Karir, caused an uproar because of statements made about radiation dangers. Will you continue with it, especially since you are choosing other sites such as al-Dab'ah west of Alexandria, west of Jansah, the Red Sea and so forth?

Nuclear Power Radiation!

The minister of electricity: I was in Sweden last October, attending a conference on nuclear power. The delegate from the United States said in an official report that the commotion stirred up over the occurrence of a breakdown in the Three Mile Island plant was greater than reality [justified] and that what happened was not more than something ordinary and internal which involved no risk. He described the situation in technical terms, and I mentioned that in an official report I presented to the prime minister's office. The report contained the conclusion of the scientists' research on cosmic rays, from which it is apparent that the rate at which a person is affected by a radioactive watch he puts on his wrist comes to 2 millirems and that the rate rises to 50 millirems of cosmic rays, during an ophthalmology examination, which is the radiation to which someone traveling on a plane from Cairo to New York or blying down on a beach is exposed. A viewer sitting before a television set is exposed to 1 to 10 millirems. The body is exposed to less than one tenth of a millirem through nuclear power.

Eng Ibrahim Shukri: It is necessary to put citizens' spirits at ease, especially since much publicity has been made against nuclear plants. There was an uproar for the same reason in Sweden. The cabinet changed and another party came to power. If we become involved with nuclear power we will have to explain everything connected with it.

The minister of electricity: Sweden is a country which has its own circumstances. Its people are prosperous and it has its own temperament. The minister of power there told me that they have uranium and heavy water resources but refuse to use them. They have drops in water levels which they can use for power but the people oppose it, lest it disfigure the natural beauty. They are not short of energy, although they recently have started to change their minds. There are countries like France whose people were opposed, then came around and became receptive; it is now

producing a 950-megawatt nuclear reactor every 2 months, that is, six reactors a year, or close to what we want to build in 20 years.

Nasif Tahun: The fact is that the uproar caused by the choice of Sidi Karir was not out of fear of the effects of the plant but out of a desire to devote the land to expanded construction.

Dr 'Imad al-Sharqawi: Nuclear plants are a necessity, because our electricity consumption is increasing 13 percent a year.

Nasif: This is a very low percentage for a deprived people who want to emerge from backwardness and live in a civilized way. This is a vital issue, especially in rural areas which are aspiring to make full use of electricity in mechanized farming, agricultural processing and so forth.

Eng Dawud Antoine Dawud: As regards the proposed nuclear program in Egypt, to be completed by 2000 and provide 6,000 megawatts, what are its projected costs and where will you get the power for it?

The minister of electricity: By our estimates, we will get 65 billion kilowatts from nuclear plants; if we do not get that from nuclear plants there will be no alternative except thermal plants. In providing the former we will save \$15 billions worth of heavy fuel oil, in addition to the cost of structures for thermal plants, which will come to about \$25 billion. Thus the difference in the price of the oil is greater than the price of the plants.

Nuclear or Qattarah?

Dawud: I raised my question in order to say that as long as the nuclear plants save the oil which you are buying at a very low price, and consequently that the ministry sells what you save at a high price, the nuclear program will have to be financed by oil, so that it can be carried out in a short time and the oil sector itself can benefit from it. In addition, I consider that execution of the program should begin before the Qattarah Depression project.

Ibrahim al-'Azzazi: I share this opinion.

The minister of electricity: The two will proceed concurrently. Construction of the nuclear plant will take about 7 years, which is about the same period as the Depression project, which is not just for electricity but will have other economic benefits.

al-'Azzazi: Qattarah is different from the High Dam. It is a project we have been studying in the People's Assembly since 1964! The possibility of using the water from Qattarah is slight because its salinity is high. I am addressing the conscience of scholars and officials!

The minister of electricity: We have formed a committee of Egyptian scientists including people with high levels of expertise connected to energy from the fields of agriculture, electricity, the environment, irrigation, the armed forces and so forth. They are now studying the project in full, they have the study which the

Germans previously made with the assistance of Egyptian scholars who have not joined the new committee, and we are awaiting their final report.

Dawud: In my opinion, we should postpone the Depression project until we fully exploit the Nile and drops in the water level. It will be possible to construct plants on the existing barrages to provide cheap electricity.

Nasif: Construction of projects on the Nile will affect the irrigation system; one must not think about them until one has settled on a complete irrigation system, which is now under discussion.

The minister: There are three barrages on the Nile, at Isna, Naj' Hammadi and Asyut. We made a study with the World Bank and the Swedes and Canadians who found that they are inadequate and that it will be necessary to construct new barrages. This will involve high costs; as it is, we have a study on the need to use Nile water while protecting irrigation systems.

Ibrahim Shukri: I have a brief comment on the Qattarah Depression project, which is what is being said about the high cost and economic unfeasibility we anticipate. We must take all possibilities into account, especially the negative ones, and benefit from our experience with major projects. Therefore the nuclear project is more appropriate and more deserving of priority. It is also possible to use the Nile and the drops in water levels throughout Egypt, on the main branch of the Nile or the big canals.

'Imad: We actually have a study which proposes 16 sites on canals where one can erect electric generating plants.

AL-AHRAM: We ask your permission to move over to rural electrification. When and how will that become a general fact of life?

Eng 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sayyad: At first, before 1952, the average per capita share of electricity in the rural areas was 5 kilowatts; after that it rose to 12, then 40; we are now raising it to 60, so that the electrification will not just be for lighting but will enter into environmental industries, drinking activities, and so forth. In figures, the number of villages and outlying areas in the form of small villages, hamlets and estates comes to 5,343. As of last 30 June, 3,973, that is, 74 percent, had been electrified. It is part of our plan that every official village in Egypt will be electrified by the end of this year. There remain the large outlying areas, to all of which electricity will be introduced by June 1983, at a rate of 300 per year, after which estates and small hamlets of less than 1,000 people, which number about 12,000, will remain. Electricity will be introduced into these at the rate of 2,000 a year, and thus we hope that electricity will be brought to every location within 5 or 6 years. We have broken the whole republic down into 120 areas in terms of importance, in terms of population density and economic projects. We will bring electricity to small estates if their inhabitants pay a specific percentage of the costs.

al-'Azzazi: I consider that instead of paying a specific amount of money, electricity should be introduced into estates only if some of the people living in them offer subscriptions, so that the Authority can guarantee a large number of

subscriptions rather than stipulating financial shares, which some people might pay but only a few will benefit from. It is necessary to give priority to villages that organize themselves.

The minister: There is no harm in that. We are studying that, especially when the number of subscribers comes to something representing a reasonable income.

al-Sayyad: What remains in our plan is that this year we will supply electricity for 1,000 motorized activities ranging from 25 to more than 160 horsepower for use in agriculture, irrigation, workshop and other development activity projects. I can say that bringing electricity to each activity will cost 7,000 to 8,000 pounds, while we will be getting only 1,000 pounds from each! In addition, this year we will be bolstering the systems in 23 towns by constructing 466 mobile electric trailers, 290 kilometers of ground cable and 6,900 poles complete with accessories.

The minister: It should be noted that the transformers and cables are locally manufactured.

al-Sayyad: In addition to these towns, the plan includes supporting 110 other towns in coming years. However, this year we will also erect 15 transformer stations with a capacity of 365 megavolts in addition to the 30 we are erecting now, to serve major projects.

AL-AHRAM: Will this prevent power cutoffs as a result?

al-Sayyad: The cutoffs are the result of the long electric lines, which are up to 30 kilometers long and more. When they are exposed to theft or some such incident, that causes a cutoff in current. Therefore we are proceeding to shorten these distances, back up the feeder lines and set up systems to separate lines which are connected to maintenance rooms by radio or telephone to carry out communications, maneuvers and repairs rapidly. For the first time the ministry will be assigning radio-operated vehicles consisting of mobile maintenance shops continuously over a 24-hour period to move and take rapid control, and we hope to lower the cutoff rates to international levels by improving the service.

The minister:

The process of maintenance and supervising electricity and distributing it among the governorates will be one of the areas in which specialized technical companies formed in each governorate under the technical supervision of the ministry will concentrate. This company will take charge of everything and will have a radio system to the mobile workshops to follow up on the repairs at its disposal.

Electricity for Every Water Wheel!

al'Azzazi: I object to giving the responsibility for electricity to the local authorities and request that that be central and subordinate to the ministry. Electricity, like irrigation, requires centralization.

The minister: Electric distribution will be central but internal distribution and maintenance will be local, in accordance with the circumstances of each governorate (except Cairo and Alexandria). These companies will be specialized and the ministry will supervise them.

Husayn Tal'at: Will financial resources and competent construction companies be made available for this ambitious plan?

al-Sayyad: I agree with you on the requisite financial allocations and share your fear of not getting them, but we have always found a way to increase them. In 1980, for example, we went over by 6 million pounds but still came up with the amount.

Nasif: If the plan is to provide electricity for 1,000 motorized activities in rural areas, we request that that be doubled so that it can keep abreast of development requirements. We have allocations of 135 million pounds for village development projects, which need power. We need the same amount to realize self sufficiency by electrifying irrigation facilities to save the 1 million feddans planted with berseem as fodder for the animals that turn the water wheels. It is necessary to electrify the water wheels. I consider that the price should drop in the case of electricity for household consumption and should rise in the case of industrial and other projects. I also request that the period in which the electricity will be brought to each hamlet and village should be reduced to half.

Ibrahim Shukri: Electrifying irrigation facilities is very important, especially since it saves animals to yield meat, milk and dairy products. That is, economic return from self sufficiency in food must be taken into consideration in calculating the costs.

AL-AHRAM: In a previous AL-AHRAM symposium, the minister of irrigation said that he would prohibit flood irrigation starting this year and that irrigation by lifting would be made mandatory. This will require machinery and power. In addition, if we electrify the water wheels to spare animals, we will need power. Will the current power capacity, including the 600 megawatts which will be added this year, meet these requirements?

al-Sayyad: We actually have a complete project to electrify 300,000 water wheels — roughly all the water wheels in Egypt — along with a thorough economic study, but execution will require as much money as the entire electrification of rural areas, that is, about 300 million pounds.

The entire symposium: That is a minor sum in comparison with its many results.

The minister: So I promise you that I will present this project and demand that its execution is approved in June in the new budget.

Participating in the Symposium

Eng Muhammad Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity; Eng Ibrahim Shukri, chairman of the Labor Party; Nasif Tahun, chairman of the Village Development Agency; Eng 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sayyad, chairman of the Rural Electrification Authority; Eng Husayn Tal'at,

chairman of the Potable Water Authority; Dr Fu'ad al-Qadi, professor of higher studies at 'Ayn Shams University; Dr 'Imad al-Sharqawi, vice chairman of Cairo Electricity; Eng Dawad Antun Dawad, power expert; Ibrahim al-'Azzazi, member of the People's Assembly; and, for AL-NUBA, Mahmud Murad.

11887

CSO: 4802

'U.S. SEVENTH PLOT' CLAIMED TO BE UNDERWAY

Tehran MARDOM in Persian 8 Mar 81 p 2

[Text] Esteemed compatriots!

The gathering that formed on Thursday, 14 Esfand [3 Mar 1981] in Tehran on the occasion of the anniversary of the passing of Dr Mohammed Mo'addeq, and which took place on subsequent days in Tehran, Mashhad, Lahijan, and elsewhere, showed once again that: the seventh American imperialist plot is underway!

This gathering, and also the one on 7 Esfand [25 Feb 1981], of liberals in Amjad-iyeh Stadium, among whom the main slogan of the people of Iran, that is, "Death to America," was not heard, and also subsequent events, were a new peak of activity within the framework of the seventh American imperialist plot against the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Immediately following the sixth American imperialist plot--the military invasion by the Saddam regime against Iran--American imperialism, while preparing a direct military invasion against the Islamic Republic of Iran, put all its satanic power and that of its allies to work within the country in order to accomplish its evil objective: the destruction of the revolution and the overthrow of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The effort to divert the public mind from the true and principal enemy--America, and Saddam's American aggression against Iran--through confusion concerning the imaginary danger of communism, intensification of conflict, contention, and discord between the revolutionary forces and the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, creation and intensification of conflict and confrontation between revolutionary forces and the agents they have planted among them, misuse of the inexperience, excesses, and mistakes of some elements in the revolutionary government, prevention of implementation of revolutionary measures such as Paragraph J [sixth letter of the Persian alphabet] of the land reform law and the law nationalizing foreign trade, and preparations to start a civil war (none of these plots have succeeded)--and other such things, are all for the purpose--just as Reagan, the President of the United States, has said--of laying the groundwork for "a reasonable, just, and moderate government," which is nothing other than a clearing of the way for the alteration of the revolution, and ultimately, for its destruction.

In order to carry out these satanic plots, a united front has been formed consisting of the organized counterrevolution, the major capitalists, the wealthy, those

affiliated with the overthrown Pahlavi regime, the SAVAK, and also the liberals and Americanized Maoists. Formation of such a front with such aims has been an accomplished fact for some time and is, therefore, neither strange nor new. What is regrettable and a cause for concern is that, first, the president of the republic has not been able to separate himself from this front--which tries to hide behind the position of the president of the republic--and second, that forces such as the Mojahedin-e Khalq [People's Crusaders] have also fallen into this trap.

Thus the danger is not only in the fact that the seditious front has become more difficult and active, and will continue to do so, but also in that the counter-revolution can hide itself behind the presidency of the republic, and that some forces who can and ought to be in the revolutionary front, have either been led astray by this front or pulled along behind it.

With a full sense of responsibility toward the people, the revolution, and the Islamic Republic of Iran--while condemning the deprivations that have come about in the context of democratic freedoms--on behalf of everyone, we believe that the interests of the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran require that:

- 1) Revolutionary forces be united, regardless of differences of political ideas, policies, or religion, under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni for vital combat against imperialism, led by America, and its counterrevolutionary proteges, and to defend the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran against the American military aggression of the Saddam regime and all the evident and hidden and direct and indirect plots of American-led imperialism.
- 2) The government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Moslem forces who have a share in the revolutionary government eliminate the conditions that would promote the success of counterrevolutionary plots by making decisive and immediate decisions in the area of establishing security and peace in the country, defeating hooliganism in whatever form it appears, and adopting serious programs for improving the material and spiritual lives of the toiling masses.
- 3) The president of the republic, with the sense of responsibility and duty that he has toward the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran, disassociate himself as quickly as possible from the front of the forces that are either counter-revolutionary or are smoothing a path for the counterrevolution.
- 4) The Mojahedin-e Khalq, and all straying elements who have fallen into the net of the counterrevolution and the road-clearing activities of the counterrevolution, disassociate themselves as quickly and decisively as possible from these forces.

We call upon all our combative and heroic compatriots, from all true revolutionary Moslem forces loyal to Imam Khomeyni's line, and all patriots and freedom-lovers of Iran to decisively smash the seventh American plot, as was done to the previous plots, with their vigilance and unity.

Our revolutionary people, who have brought such a great revolution to fruition, have the power to bring their revolution to a final and decisive victory.

'TUMULT' IN LAHIJAN ASCRIBED TO 'COUNTERREVOLUTION'

Tehran MANDOM in Persian 8 Mar 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] After a week of fabricated confrontation and confusion, the devoted agents of American imperialism, counterrevolutionary agents aided by the Americanized Maoist Peykar group, and the fighters and groups created by the CIA and SAVAK who associate themselves with the communist name "Nabard" [combat] have succeeded in creating an uproar in Lahijan. Unfortunately, supporters of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization [People's Crusaders], whose true place is beside the people, also took part in the creation of these disturbances. The above groups went into the streets of the city a week ago and, on the pretext of selling their publications, distributing announcements and putting up posters, launched an extensive propaganda campaign against the revolution and those who are leading the Islamic Republic of Iran. They went so far as to insult the leadership of the revolution with their activities, and they agitated until they caused an outbreak. Following that there were scattered confrontations on the fringes of the city. A number of people in the city went on the march and there was more extensive agitation and confusion which ended in violent confrontation and fighting. The streets of the city witnessed acts of vandalism, attacks on stores, such as several bookstores, and violence and injury. It is most unfortunate that those responsible for what was going on then and who had planted the seeds of confrontation and violence did nothing to prevent these acts, and played an observer's part. This ended in the closure of stores and the disbanding of the people's gathering.

Counterrevolutionary activists, whose main core is made up of professional SAVAK agents, have undertaken extremely dangerous acts of provocation, and they have distributed a statement in the province of Gilan to the effect that Lahijan and the surrounding area is under occupation. It says in this SAVAK statement that Lahijan is being occupied by revolutionary forces and that they plan to overthrow the revolutionary guards! Following this SAVAK statement, the Americanized Maoist Peykar group also announced in a statement that it had formed a "resistance committee," and called upon the people to enlist in this committee in order to overthrow the Islamic Republic of Iran. As these statements were being distributed, anonymous parties made telephone calls to stores, and who, while threatening the shopkeepers, demanded that they close their stores.

Following the distribution of these statements, the Revolutionary Guards gained control of the city and made it possible to restore peace in Lahijan.

It must be noted concerning the events of the past week in Lahijan that, in remarks made to a gathering of the city's shopkeepers with reference to events of the last few days, while enumerating the significance of disaster and American interference in the implementation of a nationwide plot which has spread into Lahijan also, unfortunately the governor of this municipality placed supporters of the Tudeh Party of Iran among the forces who played a role in some way in these confrontations. This view, without any doubt, arises out of an unawareness of the continuous and persistent policy of the Tudeh Party of Iran of defending the revolution and of the consistent and tireless activism of the provincial party organization in Gilan, which has always demonstrated its absolute support of the revolution and its defense of the Islamic Republic of Iran by its actions.

There is no need to repeat that on the basis of the basic policy of the Tudeh Party of Iran, members and supporters of the Tudeh Party of Iran in Lahijan, just as elsewhere in the country, have never had any part in this fabricated tumult and confrontation nor in any of the other outbreaks which are to America's advantage and the revolution's disadvantage, and they could not have had a part in them.

The wave of disaster and counterrevolutionary disruption in Lahijan must be taken as a serious warning by all responsible and committed officials. It must not be forgotten that the Lahijan situation is very sensitive and that the counterrevolution has prepared an extensive plan. One must be mindful that unmindfulness by officials in the face of provocations, fabricated plots and hooliganism can have disastrous consequences. Responsible officials must carry out their revolutionary responsibility with awareness and vigilance, and put a stop as quickly as possible to provocative and disruptive acts by anyone and in any guise in which they appear. The counterrevolution must be decisively overturned, and its agents must not be allowed to lay the groundwork for implementation of the seventh American plot.

9310

CSO: 4906

FRANCE LABELED 'BROKER OF INTERESTS OF GREAT SATAN'

Tehran BANUVAN (RAH-E ZEYNAB) in Persian 17 Feb 81 pp 5, 64

[Text] After repeated denial of reports that France had delivered Mirage fighter planes to the godless Ba'thist regime of Iraq, official French sources finally announced on Monday that, so far, four Mirage bomber planes had actually been delivered and that the rest will be delivered within the next few weeks. The delivery of 36 French-made Mirage fighter planes is being made under a contract that colonial France had signed with Iraq in 1977. This is in addition to the sale of 24 Mirage war planes that was contracted in 1979. All this is happening at a time when French imperialism is keeping in its waters the ships it had already sold to Iran and while at the same time it is preventing the delivery of the same type planes to this country.

The open intervention of French imperialism in suppressing Vietnamese fighters, the massacre of 1 million Algerian Arab brothers by French occupiers, repeated French intervention in the affairs of the African people and her recent intervention in Chad and her protest against the declaration of solidarity between Chad and Libya, her support and protection of such dirty American mercenaries and other former executioners of the former regime..., and the delivery of French-made Mirage jet fighter planes to the godless regime of Saddam for the bombing of open and defenseless cities, residential areas, hospitals, universities and mosques, reveal the dirty nature of imperialist France, the American vassal.

Documents taken from the American house of spies show clearly that the wounded wolf of American imperialism is well aware of the fact that with the presence of a revolutionary Moslem people and the great leader of the revolution, the United States, so pathetically rejected, could no longer come back. The great satan, therefore, plans to plant beastly French imperialism in its own place for the purpose of the further plundering of the nation's interests.

Such a vicious policy has not been chosen by American imperialism at random. It was decided upon on the basis of the bankrupt thinking and philosophy of certain policymakers in connection with an inclination for very close relations with European imperialism which, in our opinion, has inseparable common interests with the supercriminal United States. American and European criminals have, as a result of the weak insight and shortsightedness of their policymakers, decided to substitute the French for themselves.

Also last week, the American coupmakers of Turkey met with the French president and foreign minister in Paris to conspire about the Iran-Iraq war.

In any case, the international conspiracies of the East and the West against the blood-soaked Islamic revolution will not rest one moment, which is the result of the anti-imperialist nature of our revolution. Conspiracies against our revolution are, therefore, something natural. What is not natural is the low-level thinking among certain political leaders who not only refrain from correcting and purifying their thinking, but are feeding the public their Maoist doctrine as pure ideology.

These people have not yet seen the vivid reality that our Moslem people have revolted, with all their revolutionary zeal, against the superpowers of the East and the West and will continue their struggle. They will also reveal and lay open the conspiracy of making French imperialism take the place of that of the great satan, the United States, the same way they have acted with regard to numerous other conspiracies of this world oppressor against the revolution. That is all.

9561

CSO: 4906

ARTICLE WARNS RAJA'I AGAINST SECRET ACCOMMODATION WITH IRAQ

Tehran PAYAM-E JABHEH-YEH MELLI in Persian 5 Mar 81 pp 1, 3, 4

[Article: "A Concerned Nation Is Finally Negotiating Secretly; Iraq Can Only Be Driven Out by Full Equipment of the Army in Combination With a National War"]

[Text] As we finish the second week of the sixth month of the imposed war between Iran and Iraq, it appears that the people are becoming accustomed to the war and its side effects. High prices and crippling shortages of the daily necessities of society, production shortfalls in the factories, economic stagnation in every area, more than 1.5 million people homeless as a result of the war, alarming increases in the numbers of unemployed and, as a result, the spread of the shadow of insecurity and fear over society, and finally and most important of all, the ensconcement of the enemy in occupied lands and his extensive measures to build logistical supply routes and various encampments which point to plans for a long stay, all, along with a great many other problems, have placed our homeland in circumstances which cause grave concern for every respectable, patriotic, independence-minded Iranian. There are few people to be found today with a moderate awareness who are not apprehensive about their country's uncertain future, and especially about the preservation of its full territory, independence, and freedom. During the former regime, one of the things that always troubled people with an interest in this country was that in the course of controversy over events, developments, and various problems that had a bearing on the fate of their country, they took no positions, and everything was done behind closed doors and hidden from the people. It was hoped that things would change after the revolution, that the policy of tricking and trifling with the people would be laid aside, and that the people would be included in some logical way in the course of affairs. Unfortunately, however, this has not occurred. Secret intrigues have continued as before, a prominent example of which we encountered in the shameful disaster of the hostage incident.

Once again, Iran finds itself faced with a big question mark. We all saw how the governing apparatus of the country and the "orthodox government" confronted the conference of the leaders of Islamic countries in Taif, how it rejected the conference with such weak, illogical reasoning simply because of the conflicts that existed between the government and the president of the republic, how it regarded it as illegitimate because of not having "Islamic characteristics," and saw its attendance as contrary to the interests of Islam. We now see with the utmost amazement that this same "orthodox government" is complying with the decisions made by this conference, and is accepting the group selected by that conference

for talks and negotiations. For the love of God, is this trifling with the people or not? How can you, who did not accept the basis of the conference and its participants, and who called some of them infidels and corrupt, regard its decisions today as respectable and enter into discussions with a group of those same infidel and corrupt members? Which of those at the conference decried the foulness of Iraq's aggressive actions? Which of them raised his voice against Saddam at all? If you were not physically prevented, why did you not attend the conference and present your views in condemnation of Iraq's aggression? Do you not think that if you had done so, there is a good possibility that a number of participating countries would have backed you and at least formed a front against Iraq in a world conference?

The group sent by the Conference of Leaders of Islamic Countries that came to Iran on Saturday 9 Esfand [28 Feb], concerning its mission and the results it would produce, "expressed optimism" prior to leaving Jeddah. In a Tehran press conference, Habib Shatfi, spokesman for the group, said:

"We have come to Iran with a great many proposals and plans."

In answer to the question, do you think you will achieve positive results on this journey in your meetings with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran, another member of the group said: "God willing it will be this way." There is little precedent in international law for a group to take on such an important responsibility so easily and with the presence of several world-famous personalities merely with the intent that things that have clearly been said already by officials of the host country should be heard again from their own mouths. It is usual that such a group will always make a trip in the wake of previous agreements in order to establish a framework for implementation through negotiations and to bring about the means for establishing an official accord.

Foreign radio broadcasts have noted the sending of a letter by Mr Raja'i to Prince Fahd, Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia. We need not recall that prior to the release of the hostages this gentleman also traveled to New York and had talks there. The heart of the matter is, what are these secret activities? Why do you not let the nation in on the course of events? It is true that you do not believe in the principle of national government and that the Iranian nation should determine its own fate. Do not forget, however, that our nation will not submit to your views and beliefs.

The huge problem of the Iran-Iraq war is not a problem that can be solved by trifling with the people by you people in power and this half-baked, incompetent government. The problem is a national affair. The aggressive Iraqi government, under the full protective mantle of the imperialists, has attacked our homeland and occupied an important part of it. This vicious aggressor will not abandon occupied territory on the basis of political negotiations by any logic or reasoning at a time when we are in a position of weakness and he is in a position of strength. Therefore there is one course left, and that is to drive the enemy out with military force. That is, he must see a well-equipped, powerful army before him, he must be overpowered by it, withdraw, and free our country. The accomplishment of such a thing needs a well-considered, methodical, rapid plan. This is a task that is undoubtedly beyond the power of our elite of today. A "national

liberation government" must be formed as quickly as possible in order to equip all resources, to form defensive forces, and to strengthen the national army of Iran. Let the battle to free our homeland begin with the help of the constructive power of a national liberation government and an organized and powerful Iranian army. Let us cleanse our land of the defiling presence of the aggressive Iraqi army and let us succeed in preserving all of our land and its freedom and independence.

Do not try, therefore, to damage the country any more than this by killing time and dragging out this tiring war, and do not operate secretly so that our country will not suddenly be faced with a painful outcome, such as that of the hostage incident because of some disgraceful decision.

Make no mistake, the Iranian nation will no longer submit to such dealings at any price when it is faced with the loss of its independence and all of its homeland.

9310

CSO: 4906

ESTABLISHMENT OF ISLAMIC RULE IN IRAQ ADVOCATED

Tehran BANUVAN (RAH-E ZEYNAB) in Persian 27 Jan 81 pp 6, 7

[Text] In the name of God, the Merciful and Compassionate.

From the beginning of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the Ba'th Party of Iraq began preparing and thus dispatched counterrevolutionary elements to Kordestan and Khuzestan provinces in order to prevent this revolution from taking root.

This, because the oppressed, especially those in the region, saw their freedom from the domination of the superpowers in the continuation and constant expansion of the revolution. For the majority of Arab reactionary sheikhs and other puppet leaders of the region such as King Hassan, King Hussein and Sadat, this was hard to take. Saddam who, after long subservience to the Soviet superpower, had now turned to America in its preparation as an American candidate to become the gendarme of the area and take the place of the shah. For that reason, with his barbarous attack on Iran instigated by the United States, he tried to destroy the Iranian revolution, the most important barrier to his becoming the gendarme of the region. And in this latest mission along with his discredited colleagues, such as King Hussein, Sadat and America's other servants in the region he began collaborating, proving more than ever his subservience to the United States.

"Iran Is a Country Formally at War with the U.S. We Are Fighting with the U.S.,"
Imam Khomeyni

From the beginning of the rule of the Islamic republic, with the exception of a few naive intellectuals who were only engaged in fighting against the despotism of the treacherous shah, the chained dog of imperialism, no one believed that the deposed shah was independent of the United States. Even though this important task (the anti-American struggle) received a temporary setback with the coming to power of the provisional government, and as a result of a lack of insight by certain officials they had become involved in wheeling and dealing with the world-devouring United States, the occupation of the nest of spies put an end to that shameful diplomacy and the struggle against the United States entered a more serious stage. In spite of the fact that the revolution did not neglect the threat of the new tsars of Russian social imperialism, nevertheless, as a result of a quarter of century of American domination of every aspect of our economic, cultural and military life, the people accepted the world-devouring United States as

the great satan and the struggle against her became the top priority for the revolution. It was the result of this persistent struggle that Saddam, the invading gendarme, provoked by the United States, began its brutal attack against the revolution, better organized and more prepared than ever.

Palme, Peace Envoy!!!

From the outset of the faithless Ba'thist invasion of Iran, American imperialism has dispatched many agents, such as the head of the Islamic military government !!! of Pakistan as mediator in the war between Iran and Iraq, not because of peaceful U.S. intentions but for the sole reason that what the United States had expected to achieve from this war was not being achieved and that it was moving in a direction that would have ended in the destruction of Saddam, the great hope of the United States. That is why the United States began its all-out effort to prevent Saddam's fall.

Olaf Palme of the United Nations, the former Swedish prime minister, is one of the links in the chain of peace envoys of the imperialists.

During his first visit to Iran, Palme traveled to a number of war-stricken towns but his main effort (after talks with Iranian and Iraqi leaders) was to try to free some 36 merchant ships that had been trapped in the Shat el Arab estuary since the start of the Iraq-Iran conflict. This clearly shows the line he follows in his search for peace, because any disruption in shipping through the waters of the Persian Gulf will strike a crippling blow at American, Japanese and European imperialists.

He said: "My mission is to narrow down the views of the two opposing parties and bring them closer to one another in order to find a peaceful solution." This was uttered at a time that Palme, in spite of his knowledge about the invasion and occupation of sections of our country and of the number of people driven from their homes and the huge number of demonstrating people, who had been expelled from Iraq by the Ba'thist regime, was leaving Iran without taking any position against any of these inhuman measures by Iraq. He only left emphasizing that he expected to return in pursuance of his peace mission.

"Wherever You May Be, Prepare the People for War with the U.S. and Her Bloodthirsty Puppets Like Iraq. War Is War and Our People's Dignity and Honor Depends on This Struggle," Imam Khomeyni

Certain elements to whom imperialists look upon for their imperialist peace, because of these elements' human rights thinking, try to influence people with their already disgraced nonidealistic idea of "hatred of war." They pretend to believe that in the life and death struggle there should be no casualty, that the atheist enemy should not suffer any casualty either, even enemies such as the Ba'thists who, following their beastly occupation of our land, burned, plundered and violated the honor of this nation as much as they could. Enemies who, in order to encourage their mercenaries to massacre women and children, and in order to boost their morale, dispatched prostitutes to the front. These mercenaries do not know the meaning of humanity.

He [Palme] says "we" hate war and it is quite obvious that with this approach and hatred of war, peace remains the only alternative (call it compromise, if you may). And to make peace, it is necessary to start negotiating.

It is in this connection that certain officials, as a result of their shortsightedness, are faced with two-sided problems. On the one side, because of their democratic nature and characteristics, for the sake of humanity ask their good commanders to spare the lives of the atheist Saddam men, preach hatred of war and begin discussions with the peace envoys. These commanders, however, waged war against the godless Ba'thists in order to be in a position to reap spiritual benefits after the war.

It is interesting that those who are thinking of reaping postwar benefits are mainly those who consider the war a border conflict (which they think will be over after the enemy is driven away from the border areas) and do not look at it as a war between good and evil.

Struggle to Establish the Rule of Islamic Revolution in Iraq Is the Wish of the Imam of the Nation

From the start of the struggle, the untiring and uniting leadership of the revolution had uttered and spelled out his noble monotheistic stands and those of the nation. While pointing to our struggle with the United States, the Imam had declared that we should prepare ourselves for the fight against the United States and her puppets, such as Iraq. He had also rejected any kind of talks with the atheistic regime of the Ba'thists. This is something we had always heard being uttered by the mass media, the fighters at the fronts and in the messages from many martyrs. And now, continuation of the struggle for the complete destruction of the American-backed rule of Saddam is not only the goal of the Moslem people of Iran but of the Moslem masses of the region.

Our nation, therefore, condemns any conspiracy from either the imperialists forces or from the uninformed and nonidealistic elements inside the country, aimed at compromising the rightful struggle of our Moslem people. And in that connection, we consider any talks aimed at ending this struggle as an unforgivable sin committed against the Imam and the nation. It should be stated that our people welcome those liberals who come to Iran to further reveal the crimes committed by America's Saddam. Our people consider the uncovering of the imperialists' plots for the destruction of our revolution, which Saddam's mercenaries are now engaged in, as their sacred duty and responsibility.

9561

CSO: 4906

BRIEFS

UNIFIED FRONT--Al-Muhammarah, 12 Apr (INA)--The factions fighting for the liberation of Ahvaz have announced their military and organizational unity under the name of "the Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz." (al-Jabha al-'Arabiyyah Li-tahrir al-Ahvaz). In its first statement, the front said that the liberation of Ahvaz from the Persian usurpers is the first aim of the front and an expression of the Arab people's noble character and their adherence to their legitimate rights and pan-Arab affiliation as well as their capability of continuing the struggle. The front asserted that its establishment had come as an expression of unity among the revolution factions in harmony with the nature of the changes created by the heroic epic which is being fought by their brothers in Iraq under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn. The statement adds that this organizational and military unity will be the starting point for pooling the resources of the people. This will also move the struggle of the Arab masses in the cities and villages of Ahvaz to the stage of confrontation against the Persian enemy in order to seize victory and to achieve the complete independence of the Arab land and people in the region. In its statement, the front reviewed the struggle of our masses in Ahvaz during the latest period, particularly against the defunct shah's regime. It said that it is clear that the racist methods used by the current backward regime in Tehran are but a continuation of the shah's policies and are even more severe and oppressive. The Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz said that the epic of the brothers in Iraq to seize their legitimate rights has placed the struggle of the Ahvaz people at a crossroads to overcome the state of despair they were in and the breakdown from which they have suffered, and introduced new forms of struggle whose main characteristics are unity and insistence on continuing to carry weapons effectively to seize victory and to achieve complete liberation of the occupied national soil. [Text] [JN121125 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 12 Apr 81]

JORDANIAN OFFICIAL IN QATAR--The minister of court of the puppet regime of King Husayn of Jordan, 'Amir Khamash, left the Qatari of Doha today following a visit during which he discussed coordination among the area's surrogate regimes with regard to the new U.S.-British plot. It is to be noted that this move by the Jordanian regime directly follows the recent visit by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig to Jordan as part of his Middle East tour. Khamash left for London today where he will discuss mutual relations with British officials. King Husayn's regime, more than any other Arab regime, is supporting the criminal Saddam in his criminal war against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Through this regime passes most of the military and economic aid from surrogate and imperialist countries to Saddam's regime. [Text] [GF131711 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Apr 81]

DELEGATION TO PRC--Baghdad, 14 Apr (INA)--An Iraqi trade delegation headed by Abu Talib 'Abd al-Muttalib, head of the Iraqi general establishment for consumer goods, left for Beijing this morning on a one-week visit to the PRC for talks on the promotion of bilateral trade cooperation. [JN141137 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 14 Apr 81 JN]

CSO: 4802

PUBLIC PREFERS ALIGNMENT'S LEADING TEAM OVER LIKUD

TA031732 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 3 Apr 81 p 2

[Starf report: "Alignment's Leadership Team Preferred by Public Over Likud's Team"]

[Text] The alignment's leading team is preferred by the public over the Likud's leading team, according to a poll conducted by Minah Tzemah that will be published by the KSAFIM weekly next week. Nevertheless, the poll also revealed that for the first time in 1 year Menahem Begin is leading the list of candidates for the premiership.

The question posed in the poll was: "In your opinion, who is the most suitable person to head the government after the elections?" The question was posed to 1,232 people and the answers are as follows: Begin--22.1 percent, Peres--20.2 percent, Rabin--1.5 percent, Dayan--5 percent, Weizman--1.5 percent. Some 32.3 percent of those polled had no preference or answer to the question.

Had the Knesset elections been held last week, the alignment would have gained 46 seats, the Likud would have attained 31 seats, a Dayan-led list would have received 11 seats and the NRP would have received only 8 seats. Without Dayan's list, the alignment would have received 50 seats (a decline of 5 seats compared to the poll in February) and the Likud would have received 35 seats (compared with 29 in February).

This poll also indicates that the wide gap between the Likud and the alignment last year has been closing. This gap dropped from 38 mandates at the end of December 1980 to 15 mandates today. It should be noted that, compared with the February poll, Dayan's list registered a drop of 5 mandates.

Dr Minah Tzemah also conducted a check of the leading teams of the two large parties. She asked the people polled to determine which team is more suitable to run the state's affairs. To this end, Dr Tzemah formed two teams: the Likud team composed of Begin, Aridor, Shamir, Sharon and Levi; and the alignment team composed of Peres, Blumenthal, Eban, Bar-Lev and Edri. Some 46.2 percent of the polled said they preferred the alignment's leading team over that of the Likud whereas 39.6 percent preferred the Likud's team over that of the alignment.

CSO: 4805

GUIDELINES FOR SEPARATION OF IDF PERSONNEL DESCRIBED

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Feb 81 p 9

[Article by Ze'ev Shiff: "The Painful Analysis"]

[Text] The IDF has not yet reconciled itself to the drastic cut in the defense budget. The struggle still continues, however it is already clear to the General Staff that in any case, even if they receive some supplement to the budget, the separation of several thousand persons from the regular service will be unavoidable. Only once in its history has the IDF faced a similar situation in which it had to implement mass separations of thousands of officers and non-commissioned officers. It was in the early 1950's when Ben Gurion ordered extensive cutbacks and separations in the IDF. Committees then cut everything and even violated the contracts of officers and civilian employees in the IDF. Today they don't want to repeat that method, and they do not consider it a good legacy. The objective is to implement "humane" separations and to divide up the burden throughout the IDF without adversely affecting the best and the command structure of the combat force.

After internal discussions and much soul-searching, the chief of the Manpower Branch of the General Staff, Major General Moshe Netiv, recently submitted the guidelines and criteria for the separations to the General Staff. It was a sad deliberation. It was clear at the outset that for many of those to be separated, who had spent many years in the IDF under difficult conditions and with dedication, there was no rosy prospect of integration into the civilian market. They will be unemployed and will receive unemployment compensation (from the defense budget). There are already today about 800 persons from the regular service who are receiving unemployment compensation. As of now there is no fixed figure for the number of those to be separated, however it will certainly consist of several thousand officers and non-commissioned officers. In actuality, it will be 1,500 to 2,000 greater than the cuts will require, and this is because of an important principle which Major General Netiv proposed and which has already been approved.

His guideline affirms that because of the cuts and the necessity for separations, it will be absolutely forbidden to close the regular service to new enlistees. If the regular service is not to become a stagnant pool of water, the enlistment of youth and well qualified persons must be continued. This is the only way to inject new blood into the service and to maintain its freshness. If not, it will not be long before several areas and functions will show signs of deterioration. This means that in this case there will be no application of the principle extant in the civilian market that new employees are not accepted as long as others are being released in

in an enterprise. On this basis another guideline was set: to continue the signing up of graduates of the officers school for a year's duty in the regular service. There was a dispute on this issue, however it was finally decided that for the time being the status quo would remain because the junior officer level is the qualitative foundation of the armed forces.

In All Ranks

Before addressing the criteria by which the list of those to be separated will be determined, it should be noted that there are proposals for savings which are designed to limit the number of those to be separated. The reference is to a saving of money which will be designed for only one purpose--the limitation of the separations. For example, personnel of the regular service will again be asked to contribute 3 percent of their pay (one workday a month), however this time not on a voluntary basis but on a mandatory one. On the previous occasion, the money was directed to the defense budget in general, however this time it will be allocated only for the limitation of the separations. Another proposal is that graduates of the officers course who are obligated to serve a year in the regular service have their pay reduced this year by 50 percent. Again, this money also will be directed for the same purpose. These are the two main sections in these proposals, however there are additional proposals which affect a smaller segment of the armed forces. If they are approved, it is estimated that the number of those to be separated will be reduced by many hundreds.

One of the key guidelines is to make certain that the separations do not adversely affect the command structure of the combat and mechanic force lest the IDF be rendered helpless. This means if a company or battalion commander requests an extension of his contract, there is a good chance that it will be approved even though many in his rank in other positions will be separated. Another guideline states that the separations will not be carried out on the basis of the administrative convenience of the headquarters. This means that those whose contracts are ending during this period or those who are in a transition and billetless stage will not be separated.

These are common situations and competent personnel can be caught in them. This is the way to lose them. Care will also be taken that the burden of the separations not fall only on the lower ranks and those who are not close to where the action is being taken and do not have connections with anyone who is in the decision-making process. In this matter also there will be no application of the well-known principle in the civilian market of last in, first out. It was explicitly decided that the burden of the separations will fall on all ranks in a relative and equal manner. The only difference will be perhaps when what is involved is separation of an officer with the rank of colonel or higher which will be submitted for the approval of the chief of the General Staff.

A glance at the separation criteria shows that those personnel in the upper age groups will be primarily affected. An explicit guideline states that precedence in the separations will be given to those officers and non-commissioned officers 40 years of age and older, that is to say, those who are close to the age of separation from the IDF. It is a group of personnel whose "cost" of maintenance is also higher even though many of them are experts in their specialty. Moreover, it is a population group whose pension benefits are secure and the shock of sudden separation will be less. Nevertheless, those who are separated will receive concessions in the conditions of release. They will be entitled to all release grants. Those who will be separated will not be required to repay special debts (such as debts for educational

purposes and standing loans, as was customary in the past). In contrast, the normal debts will be repaid after separation.

Candidates For Separation

A concession will also be made for those being separated who are in the age group of 38-39. They will be permitted to take leave without pay until the age of 40 when they will be entitled to pension benefits. Such an arrangement will not be in effect for those under the age of 38, however in contrast, there is a recommendation in the Manpower Branch to permit them to take leave with pay in order to organize their affairs in preparation for their sudden entry into civilian life. What is being considered is a week's leave for every year of regular service, however in any case the leave will not exceed 12 weeks.

The above concerns those who are in the higher age groups. In addition to these, other separation criteria have been set. For example, officers who have not been promoted to lieutenant colonel after 7 or 8 years in grade or captains who have not been promoted to the rank of major even though they have 6 years in grade, or non-commissioned officers who have not received a superior professional classification after 5 years. Designated for separation are all the officers and non-commissioned officers who are not placed in a billet determined in the Planning Branch or officers who are working in a billet of a lower rank. This refers to an officer for whom a position appropriate for his rank has not been found and who has had to be employed in a position which is generally accomplished by a lower ranking officer. These will be more affected, except for those officers who are suffering a disability or experts in special occupations who have been promoted through the years.

Candidates who are virtually certain of separation according to these criteria are all officers who are rated lower than good by their commanding officers. Another principle is to give precedence to those who are serving in the regular service who are not mobile (except for those who are suffering from various personal problems) and whom it is difficult to place in field units or in distant locations. It is clear that this principle will primarily affect married female officers.

Nevertheless, several limiting rules have been established also for those who fall into one of the aforementioned groups. For example, in every case preference will always be given to those non-commissioned officers who have achieved a high mark in their occupational specialty or officers in whom considerable funds have been invested for the acquisition of education and a specialization (special and long-term courses for professional specialization, and so forth). It has also been explicitly decided that health problems must be taken into account such as persons who have been wounded in the service and a special economic and family situation before the final decision. In other words, there is to be a humane attitude.

The IDF is now only in the preparatory stage before the painful analysis. There is no doubt that extraordinary shocks can be expected when they reach the preparation of the lists of those who are to be separated. The lists will be prepared by the commands and the branches, and the control will be the responsibility of the General Staff, apparently by special committees. The objective is to limit these shocks to the extent possible and primarily to prevent the deterioration of the professional foundation of the regular service and the deterioration of certain of its branches. The one who will be given this sensitive assignment is not to be envied.

BANK LE'UMI ANNOUNCES PROFITS

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Mar 81 p 6

[Article by Macabee Dean]

[Text]

TEL AVIV. — The consolidated balance sheet of the Bank Leumi Group stood at IS139 billion at the end of 1980, Ernst Japhet, chairman and chief executive of the network, announced yesterday. This constitutes a 10 per cent real growth above the cost-of-living index (which is 137 per cent for banks, since it is based on the 12-month period ending November 1980), a 19.6 per cent growth in dollar terms (the balance sheet of the group stood at \$18.5b.), and 155 per cent in inflationary terms.

Asked point-blank by a reporter at a press conference yesterday: "Isn't it true that Bank Hapoalim is gradually closing the gap between the two banks, and that soon we will see Hapoalim the country's largest bank and Leumi the number two in size?" Japhet snapped that: "I've been hearing this question for the past ten years, and I always give the same answer, we are Israel's number one bank and we intend to continue to be the country's leader."

(Bank Hapoalim's balance sheet at the end of 1980 stood at IS128.3b.)

Japhet added that the net profit of the bank stood at IS52.5m. (or \$69.6m.), an increase of 29 per cent

above the index, 40.9 per cent in dollar terms, or 201 per cent in inflationary terms.

Net profit per share was IS0.63 which is an increase of 23 per cent according to the index, 34.1 per cent in dollar terms and 186 per cent in inflationary terms. "No other bank can show such an increase in net profit per share," Japhet said, adding that "anyone who bought Bank Leumi shares on January 1, 1980 and held them through January 1, 1981, would have received a 37 per cent yield above the cost-of-living index, if all benefits, such as the 16 per cent cash dividend, the bonus shares, etc., are taken into account." The bank has some 300,000 shareholders.

Interestingly enough, 23 per cent of the net profits of the group (which includes such smaller banking networks as Union, Arab-Israel, General Mortgage, etc., in which Leumi holds the dominant part of the equity) came from its overseas outlets. "This is so although these branches constitute only about 20

per cent of the assets in our balance sheet," Japhet said. He explained that the greater ratio of profits from abroad is due to the fact that abroad, the bank charges fees for such services as accepting payments for telephones, electricity, and other bills, while in Israel these services are provided free.

Of the group's 433 branches, 57 are abroad, and the most profitable ones were those in Chicago, Los Angeles and Philadelphia.

Some 71 per cent of the bank's assets are in various foreign currencies, 23 per cent are in linked securities, and only 6 per cent are in unlinked Israeli shekels.

Last year, the group raised IS1b. in new capital, of which half was raised in Israel and half abroad.

Japhet was especially pleased that public deposits stood at IS74b., an increase of 152 per cent in inflationary terms, or 17.9 per cent in dollar terms, and that such deposits constituted about 53 per cent of the balance sheet. The bank has about two million savings accounts, three million other accounts (checking, etc.) and performs 600,000 "transactions" a day.

The number of persons employed at the end of 1980 was 14,839, an 8.2 per cent growth over the previous year. However, about half of the increase was due to expansion overseas.

Of the 11,059 people employed in Israel, 52 per cent are women. The number of "managers and officials entitled to sign documents," is 1,691. Among these higher echelons of employees there are only 12.3 per cent women. (Five years ago only 7 per cent of the higher echelon were women, and ten years ago, only 3.6 per cent).

In 1980 some 135,000 persons joined the provident funds managed by the bank, increasing the total membership to approximately half a million, and the assets of these funds to IS12b., an increase of 18 per cent above the index. The bank also has 16 mutual funds, and two of them, Margalit and Bedolach, had returns (non-deflated) of 562 and 480 per cent in 1980.

The assets of these provident and mutual funds are not included in the group's assets, nor are other holdings, such as Africa-Israel investments, and the group's network of insurance companies, headed by Migdal.

BANK LE'UMI STILL LARGEST BANK

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 31 Mar 81 p 9

[Article by Macabee Dean]

[Text]

By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A comparison of the three largest banking groups for 1980 shows that Bank Leumi is still the largest; that Bank Hapoalim is gradually catching up, since it is growing slightly faster than Leumi; and that Discount increased its capital means faster than the other two.

The balance sheet of Leumi in 1980 stood at IS139,487m., an increase of 155 per cent over 1979; while that of Hapoalim was IS128,348m., an increase of 159 per cent. Discount comes in third place, with its balance sheet standing at IS64,418m., a 140 per cent increase over the previous year.

Considering these figures, it seems that Leumi and Hapoalim are in the same group, while Discount's balance sheet is roughly half that of either Leumi or Hapoalim.

However, Discount increased its capital means faster than the two giants in 1980. Discount's capital means rose by 162 per cent, to stand at IS918m., while Hapoalim increased its capital by 113 per cent, to stand at IS2,145m., and Leumi increased its capital by 158 per cent, to stand at IS2,251m.

Leumi had a much greater share of public deposits, IS74,402m., an increase of 152 per cent; but Hapoalim increased its deposits from the public by 182 per cent, to stand at IS41,150m. Discount increased its deposits by 149 per cent,

to IS38,659m.

These figures show that in deposits from the public Leumi holds almost as much as its two competitors together.

When it comes to ordinary income, Hapoalim was the largest, with IS39,112m., an increase of 204 per cent over 1979, while Leumi had IS27,955, an increase of 198 per cent; and Discount had an ordinary income of IS15,344, an increase of 194 per cent.

Discount led the three in earmarking funds for "doubtful debts" in 1980. It set aside IS82m., an increase of 318 per cent over 1979; while Leumi set aside IS76m., an increase of 313 per cent. Hapoalim set aside only IS44m., an increase of 143 per cent.

And the "bottom line," of course, is net profits (after taxes). Here Hapoalim led the group, with IS639m., an increase of 218 per cent. Leumi had net after-tax profits of IS525m., an increase of 201 per cent, while Discount's after-tax profits were IS240m., an increase of 145 per cent.

Leumi paid out IS58m. in cash dividends plus 100 per cent bonus shares; Hapoalim paid out IS60m. in dividends plus 75 per cent bonus shares while Discount paid out IS34m. in dividends plus 50 per cent bonus shares.

As for net profits per share, those of Leumi increased by 186 per cent; those of Hapoalim by (an estimated) 159 per cent; and those of Discount by 102 per cent.

BEGIN'S OFFICE PUBLISHES FIGURES ON WEST BANK LAND

TA061332 Jerusalem POST in English 6 Apr 81 p 2

[Report by David Richardson: "Government Reveals 'Real Facts' on West Bank Land"]

[Text] A total of 200,000 dunams (50,000 acres) has been allocated to Jewish settlement in the West Bank, including 36,004 dunams since last July, according to figures released yesterday by the Israel Information Centre in the prime minister's office.

A large part of the land allocated for Jewish settlement since last July--30,000 dunams--was classified by the information centre as "state land." But this figure is contradicted both by lawyers handling court cases against the take-over of "state land," and a Senior Justice Ministry source who confirmed that the figure is much larger.

The two Israeli lawyers who represent most of the petitioners in the 17 cases currently before the courts, Ilyas Khuri and Felicia Langer, maintain that between themselves they are handling a total of nearly 40,000 dunams which the military government has declared "state land."

The Senior Justice Ministry source told the JERUSALEM POST last week that some 20,000 dunams have been allocated to settlements in the Ari'el and Shomron area and another 20,000 in southern Judaea in the area of the proposed settlement of Mizpe Guvrin. In addition, some 17,000 dunams east of Abu Dis have also been declared state land, the source said.

The information centre said it published its figures to rectify "erroneous and misleading data recently published in the world media. This data, the centre maintains, was incorrect in regard to "the extent of the allocations and the nature of the allocated lands."

The government's latest settlement drive aims to resettle some 30,000 people in up to 80 settlements in the West Bank by election day. The campaign has been accompanied by an accelerated search for lands which are either free of Arab landowners or apparently uncontested.

The search for uncontested land followed the high court of justice ruling 18 months ago ordering the dismantling of the Gush Emunim settlement of Elon More overlooking Nabulus. The court ruled that Jewish settlements could only be established on private land for clear-cut reasons of security.

Following the court's decision, the military government aided by Justice Ministry land experts undertook an extensive review of land in the West Bank to determine where and how much land was available for settlement. This survey is considered only preliminary, and is due to be completed within the next few weeks.

The review confirmed that at most only 50 percent of the land in the West Bank had undergone the legal process of resolving ownership and finally registering title. This legal process started under the British mandate and was continued by the Jordanians but stopped after the 1967 6-Day War.

Yesterday's statement by the information centre says that much of the land allocated for Jewish settlement is considered "state land." But a Senior Justice Ministry official admits this term has no real formal basis in the applicable land law.

Land law in the West Bank is complex and obscure, having its origins in the Ottoman Majallah and civil code. The British mandate, and later the Jordanian Government, introduced a number of important changes, and the Israel military government has published orders which have also affected questions of procedure in land cases but not the theoretical basis for the classification of land.

According to various land experts--including government lawyers--"state land" in fact refers to two separate categories known by the Ottoman terms of Miri and Mawt.

Miri--a term derived from the word "amir"--refers to a pool of land reserved for building and agriculture 2.5 kilometers around each village. Up to the 6-Day War villagers could earn title to Miri land either by an agreement with the sovereign power or by working the land for 10 consecutive years. After the 6-Day War the only way to earn such title was through 10 consecutive years of working the land. Ownership of Miri land acquired through work lapses if the land is not worked for 10 consecutive years.

The terms "state land" as used by the government in areas where Miri applies means those parts of the Miri plot of which no ownership was recorded in the lands registry, or tabu as it is popularly known.

Mawt or "dead lands" are those beyond the Miri and private ownership is very rare in this category.

Attorney Khuri wrote a long letter to Attorney-General Yitzhaq Zamir in February complaining that the procedure of declaring "state lands" placed an unfair burden of proving ownership on the peasants who claimed title to it.

Justice Ministry sources felt that Khuri's letter was behind many of the reports published abroad about the latest rush in settlement.

Yesterday's information sheet provides a breakdown of where lands were allocated, the largest being 5,900 dunam for Ari'el in January this year.

The figures provided do not refer to lands declared closed or seized for military purposes or areas around settlements where building has been forbidden. Unofficial estimates claim that since 1967 up to a third of the West Bank has been closed, seized or purchased for military and civilian purposes. The largest tracts are the eastern part of the Judean desert and the Jordan Valley.

CSO: 4820

WEST BANK UNIONS FACE OPPOSITION

Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 22-28 Mar 81 pp 6, 13

[Article by Nidal Samed]

[Text] "To talk about the union movement today is to talk about its survival despite the pressures of the occupation," says Adel Ghanem, head of the West Bank General Federation of Trade Unions (GFTU).

The hallmarks [word indistinct] Israeli administration of the occupied territories--restrictions on any form of organization; arrest, deportation, administrative detention and town restriction on activists; denial of licences and permits to institutions; amendments to local laws and neglect of international laws in favor of tighter military control--have all threatened the union movement in the West Bank.

As in other local institutions, any form of popular resistance to these measures has taken on national dimensions--the demands for better organization of society, an equitable judicial system, freedom of speech and association, development and progress in human terms--all inevitably require an end to military occupation and the setting up of a sovereign Palestinian state. The union movement has joined in the national struggle against Camp David and implementation of the 'autonomy scheme' and voices support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Before 1967 there were about as many unions as there are today but they were much smaller and less active. After 1967, with the increasing disintegration of the Palestinian agriculture-based economy and proletarianization of the peasantry, trade union movement became potentially more significant.

All pre-1967 West Bank unions locked their offices after the Israeli occupation (except for two in Jerusalem). The first reopened in 1970 and many others only since 1978; some are still closed.

Since 1967 not one registration permit has been given to a new union by the Israeli authorities.

Unions Without Permits

Several new unions have applied for registration since 1979. (See table). Three of these, the Nablus Carpenters and Mattress-makers, and the Hebron and Abu Dis Construction and General Institution Workers Unions are waiting for their licenses before they can begin activities. The military authorities responsible for licensing unions have kept them dangling.

Ali Abu Hilal, a house painter and provisional secretary of the Abu Dis union, applied for a permit in June 1979. "They haven't refused or agreed. We've asked repeatedly and they keep saying, they're studying it. At least if they refused, we could go to court.

Representatives of the Nablus and Hebron unions share Abu Hilal's opinion. "Since we're only asking for our legal rights," says Radwan Ziadeh, construction worker and provisional secretary of the Hebron Construction and General Institution Workers Union, they could not continue to deny them to us if we went to court," he said.

Hebron unionists are now optimistic they will be registered. When they first requested a permit for their new union, they did not realize there had been a 'Hebron General Institution and Municipal Workers Union' before 1967. Now they are considering changing their union's name to be eligible for registration as a renewal of an old union.

According to Radwan Ziadeh, about 30,000 general workers live in the Hebron area of which about 10,000 are construction workers. There is no union to represent them. The ones who work in Israel--the majority--pay union fees to the Histadrut for insurance they never benefit from. "We must struggle to oblige the owners and the government to give our local unions the money instead," says Ziadeh.

Mustafa Abu Salem is head of the Nablus Carpenters Union. He is still waiting for news on the permit he applied for in August 1980. "There are about 120 carpenters in Nablus whom we could represent if we could get a permit," he says. "Their rights can better be represented in a specialized union than in the general institutions unions."

There are two large factories in the Abu Dis-El Aizariyye area; most workers join construction crews in Israel. Those who work in the local factories are not insured for workplace injuries. "We thought a union would improve this situation," says Ali Abu Hilal.

There is now no union in Abu Dis-El-Aizariyye. The new union was willing to attach itself to the nearby Bethlehem union, but the military authorities refused. For labor matters this area is administered by the Ramallah area authorities.

"Because they are not legally recognized by the military government," says Adel Chanem of three of the four unions which applied for membership in the General Federation headquartered in Nablus, "they can be honorary members only.

After the Carpenters Union, also without a permit, was admitted last September, the authorities made a terrible stir," says Ghanem. Some younger unionists, however, suggest that the General Federation ignore the authorities' threats and admit the honorary unions as full members.

Amendment to Labor Law

Besides hampering formation of new unions, the authorities threaten to systematically limit activities of already established unions. The most significant attack on the union movement came in the form of military order 825 of March 17, 1980. This amendment to Article 83 of the Jordanian labor law gives the authorities full power to control the administration of any union and the decisions that a union makes by removing administrative board nominees before an election, and elected officials at any time and annulling any decision taken during their term in office. It also gives the authorities the license to request details on the background of any nominee for a union office. (See box.)

The first time the new order could have been applied would have been before and during union elections scheduled for January 1981. But the leadership of unions with scheduled annual elections refused to call them. "This way," argues Ghanem, "the authorities would have no room to interfere. Next year, all West Bank unions could have elections simultaneously--giving them more time to raise consciousness on this issue and develop a united stand," he says.

Specific Punishment

Individual union locals and union activists have been threatened and punished for their union activities but, as Adel Ghanem points out, "the authorities do not admit that it is for union activities. They never give specific reasons."

Several branches of union locals have been searched and threatened with closure. To date only the Battir branch office of the Bethlehem Union has been closed by the military, for allegedly failing to obtain a permit to open the office.

Four union activists are currently under town restriction. Mahmoud Ziadeh was vice-president of the Jerusalem Restaurant, Hotel and Cafe Workers Union when he was put under town restriction in Hebron in June 1980. Hassan Barghouti, president of the same union, was put under restriction in Ramallah in August. Adel Ghanem, general secretary of the GFTU, has been restricted to Nablus since November and George Hazboun, head of the Bethlehem General Institution Workers Union, has been restricted to his hometown since December.

Two Nablus unionists have been held in administrative detention (no charge, no trial) for three months. Mahmoud Sharbaini and Yusif Khalife are both officials in the Printers Union. A third unionist, Faisal Hindi, of the Qalqilya branch of the Tulkarm General Institution Workers Union, put under administrative detention at the same time, was released last month.

Last year, Mahmoud Ziadeh, Ali Abu Hilal and Muhammad Labadi (from the Abu Dis union) were kept under administrative detention from August 1979 to February 1980. Ziadeh was held for two months beginning in January 1979 as well. Security services agents raided and ransacked the house of Ali Abu Hilal last month and interrogated him about his union activities.

Others have had their identity cards stamped so that they cannot leave the country and still others have their names recorded on the bridges to Jordan so that they are repeatedly turned back without reason. Walid el-Aghba, vice-president of the Nablus Construction Workers Union and member of the General Federation had his I.D. stamped 10 years ago and has not been allowed to leave the country since.

"There's no difference in the treatment for unionists," says Adel Chanem. "They're like anybody else working to improve the conditions for their people. The occupation affects them as it does everybody else."

*General Institution Workers Unions are for any workplaces which employ at least five workers.

Members of the General Federation of Trade Unions

Full Members

Nablus

- 1) Construction Workers
- 2) Seamstresses
- 3) Leatherworkers
- 4) Bakers
- 5) Health Service Workers
- 6) Drivers
- 7) General Institution Workers
- 8) Printers
- 9) Carpenters (1980)*

Tulkarm

- 10) General Institution Workers (includes Qalqilya branch)

Jenin

- 11) General Institution Workers

Ramallah

- 12) Construction and General Institution Workers
- 13) Health Service Workers

* These unions have not received permits to date

Bethlehem

- 15) Seamstresses
- 16) Carpenters
- 17) Shoemakers
- 18) Knitters and Weavers

Jerusalem

- 19) Restaurant, Hotel and Cafe Workers
- 20) Electricity Company Workers
- 21) Construction Workers
- 22) Printers
- 23) Augusta Victoria Hospital Employees
- 24) Makassed Islamic Hospital Employees (1979)*
- 25) Shoemakers

Honorary Members

- 1) Hebron Construction and General Institution Workers (1979)*
- 2) Abu Deis Construction and General Institution Workers (1979)*
- 3) Ramallah Private Schools (1980)*

Non-Members

Najah University Employees (denied permit February 1981) (includes Bir Zeit University branch)
Jericho General Institution and Municipal Workers
Hebron Drivers and Transportation Workers
Jerusalem Drivers
Ramallah Seamstresses (1981)*
Hebron Smiths (1981)

Pre-67 Unions Not Reopened

Jerusalem

Bakers
Municipal Workers
Painters and Masons
Tourist Guides
Tourism and Workers
Bank Clerks
Coiffeurs
Hebron Stonecutters
Hebron General Institutions and Municipal Workers
Hebron General Services Workers
Nablus Bank Clerks

* These unions have not received permits to date

Article 83

"Only workers or full-time employees in a labor union are allowed to be elected to the administrative committee. No administrative committee member may have been convicted of a criminal act or a moral violation.

Military Order 825

"Ineligible for nomination to an administrative committee is:

"--any person found guilty of committing a crime whose sentence exceeds five years imprisonment

"--any person who has been convicted of an offence by a court having jurisdiction in the area or in Israel

"At least 30 days before the election, the list of all the nominees must be submitted to (the responsible military officer) and he may strike out the name of any person who he believes does not comply with the above provisions.

"He, the officer, may inform the union that he has annulled the membership of any members of the administrative committee who has been elected illegally or who no longer satisfies the conditions mentioned above. If this happens, he may order the committee with its reduced number to continue to operate.

"He may make regulations to ensure that the above provisions are complied with, by asking for details of every one of the nominees for election to the administrative committee.

"Any procedure enacted by the administrative committee cannot be practiced if such an ineligible participant has participated."

CSO: 4820

ISRAELI WEST BANK POLICIES CRITICIZED

TA031715 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Apr 81 p 14

[Commentary by Yehuda Litani: "The Wild West in the West Bank"]

[Excerpts] Israel's "wild west" in 1981 is the West Bank. In the United States wild west in the last century there was a struggle between those who wanted to observe the law and those who violated it. In the West Bank in 1981 the representatives of the law are on the side of the law breakers. Not only that, but they actually offer their services and good offices for the purpose of requisitioning land--an activity which, during the last few months, has turned into open robbery--from Palestinian inhabitants and in general, restricting the Arabs for the sake of intensifying Israeli settlement on the land.

In the wild west of ours the "sheriff" holding one star proposes to the law breaker sophisticated ways to circumvent or violate the law by calling land robbery, "state domain," and the construction of a road to a settlement, "requisitioning for public needs," (What public? The local public is, on the whole, Arab, and such an expropriation of land like a master plan for permanent settlement constitutes an open and gross violation of the Geneva Convention). The sheriff expels the landowners by means of various claims and settles the Israeli settlers in their place. The sheriff does not open files and does not bring to justice the settlers who trouble the local population--break windows of houses and cars, provoke, threaten with weapons, shoot, destroy shops and what not. In short, this is a sheriff who functions in accordance with the method "let's pull a fast one" aimed against the local population.

The sheriff acts only against unlawful actions, or such which are defined as unlawful, of the local population, because he is guided by and acts under the inspiration of the leaders of Gush Emunim and the extremists among the settlers. The sheriff, the Likud and the military administration are not now subject to the limitations of the "softies" like former defense minister 'Ezer Weizman or former foreign minister Moshe Dayan, Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Yadin or former minister of justice, Shmuel Tamir. In the present-day wild west everything is directed and guided by Ari'el Sharon, and his spirit prevails everywhere. He is being helped by Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Tzipori, Minister of Justice Moshe Nisim and Finance Minister Yoram Aridor. Each of them in his realm. It is a government of the settlers, for the settlers.

On the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip another law of interaction is also at work: the more the situation of the Israeli settlement movement has improved, the more the existing settlements have been expanded and new settlements established, the more land has been added to them and the more rights and privileges they have been granted, the worse the situation of the Palestinian population has become, the more land has been taken away from them, the worse relations toward them have become, the more limited their rights have become.

Hundreds of millions of shekels have been invested in the establishment of new settlements, paving of roads and paths, establishment of industrial works, and expansion of existing settlements. The result: more than 60 settlements in Samaria and Judaea, with a population of 18,000 settlers, and a few hundred more in the Gaza Strip. The roads do not pass through desert land, but through the heart of densely populated regions, through cultivated land and sometimes through plantations and even built-up areas. The land which has been taken away from them for the purpose of establishing settlements is called by a special code name of the Likud "state domain," and sometimes "rocky ground," and in quite a number of instances even private land.

These are facts which have changed the face of the political map, and have in fact brought about the annexation of the territories by Israel--all the more so in view of the fact that the legal status of the settlements and the settlers is "Israeli to all intents and purposes." These facts have given a great deal of joy to those people in Israel who are in favor of annexation, and this is already being exploited quite well in the Likud's election campaign. Ari'el Sharon intends to show the achievements of the settlement to more than 300,000 inhabitants of the state. No longer is the peace treaty with Egypt and its appendices being emphasized, and it appears that the Likud wants to wash its hands of the agreement, the sooner the better. It is no longer such a nice bargain the way it seemed to Mr Begin and his disciples 2 years ago or even 1 year ago.

Even if the annexation had been done under more humane conditions, in a less predatory manner towards the population of the occupied territories, even then it would have been difficult to understand the indifference, the "I couldn't care less" attitude of the Israeli public in relation to events in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. It appears that a large part of Israel's population is still living in the early 1970's, when concepts like "liberal occupation," "a policy of open bridges," "a policy of hot and cold water faucets," were introduced. Soldiers doing their reserve service in the territories have long ago learned that the word "occupation" does not go very well with words like "liberal" or "enlightened."

Occupation is occupation, and for the transfer of 20,000 Israeli settlers to the West Bank in the course of 14 years of occupation, for the attempted annexation of the West Bank by Israel, an attempt which--in my opinion--is bound to fail eventually, we have paid a heavy price: an unprecedented deterioration of relations between Israelis and Palestinians, the Palestinians with whom we are supposed to and will have to live together in one country.

In the last few months, towards the approaching elections for the 10th Knesset, the tempo of expropriation of land from the Palestinians has been increased. In the majority of cases it has been open robbery. Those who are satisfied with just reading the slogans and nice catchwords of Ari'el Sharon, Mati Drobles and the settlers would believe that the land that has been taken away is rocky ground, hilly ground, of which no one makes any use, land that is covered with rocks and boulders, and the people of Israel are actually doing a good thing and saving that land from desolation. Part of the expropriated land is indeed rocky, but a great many pieces of land are cultivated, and families of farmers have been living off them and earning a livelihood.

Ari'el Sharon, Drobles and the settlers are exploiting a legal loophole: the majority of land on the West Bank did not go through a process of land registration and settlement, and for quite a large part of the land there is no clear evidence as to its legal ownership. Open robbery has been conducted for months for purposes of road construction, industrial zones, settlements--old ones and new ones, those who think that all the land throughout Eretz Yisra'el belongs to the Jews do not regard this sort of robbery other than a return or recovery of property.

However, those who believe that two peoples live on the same land, and both have rights and claims to it, know that in front of our very eyes a process of eviction and expulsion is going on.

CSO: 4805

BAR-LEV CALLS FOR TERRITORIAL COMPROMISE IN WEST BANK

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 3 Apr 81 p 16

[Text] Haim Bar-Lev explains why territorial compromise offers the only hope of a permanent solution to the problem of the administered territories.

THE ISRAELI public is already preoccupied with the question of what to do about the administered territories and about our eastern frontier, and will be increasingly so as election day approaches.

Other countries are also interested in this issue, and some of them are offering solutions and initiatives of their own. The arrival of a new regime on the scene in the U.S. and the sudden calling of Knesset elections here have combined to slow down international diplomatic handling of the matter. This may have created the impression that the issue has ceased to be so important, has, indeed, been removed from the agenda. This impression is wrong, for two reasons.

First, positions on the autonomy question and day-to-day policy in the territories are determined by the idea of the permanent solution.

Secondly, Israeli policy in these two spheres affects the attitude of the rest of the world. A hard line alienates even friendly countries and drives them closer to the PLO view of things. An example of this is the position adopted, recently by Britain.

Most of the solutions proposed so far, both here and abroad, are extreme ones. They are solutions whereby one side gets everything it wants and all the other parties are left empty-handed. Such are the solutions proposed by the Likud, Jordan and the PLO.

AS THE LIKUD has it, Judea and Samaria and the Gaza Region will remain under Israeli rule and ultimately under its sovereignty. The Likud is not prepared to hand over any part of these areas to Arab sovereignty. A product of this concept is "administrative autonomy for the inhabitants" — the policy of settlement right in the heart of the thickly-populated Arab area, and the treatment of the Arab population that we have seen during the four years of Likud rule. All this is supposed to gain Israel all of "western Eretz Yisrael," and thus, the Likud hopes, the achievement of all its territorial aspirations.

This solution gives nothing to any of the other parties involved. The Palestinian Arabs are split up between two sovereign states — about half of them under Jordanian sovereignty east of the Jordan River and the other half under Israeli sovereignty west of it. Jordan, a vital component of the peace process, emerges the loser.

Israel cannot force Jordan to accept such a peace agreement; the Palestinian Arabs will not see it as any kind of solution, and the rest of the world will agree with them.

ANOTHER EXTREME solution is the one proposed by the PLO and supported by most of the rest of the world.

This proposal calls for the establishment of a sovereign state, headed by the PLO, which will have the option of merging with the other half of the Palestinian Arabs — i.e., those living east of the Jordan — and/or of expanding westward and swallowing little Israel.

In the PLO scheme of things, Israel will in the first stage withdraw to the Green Line, and promptly face the PLO's expansionist aims — aims that will have the support of the Arab rejectionists and probably of the Soviet Union as well. The Palestinian problem will not have been solved, because the Palestinian Arabs, living on both sides of the Jordan River, will be torn between two sovereign states — Jordan and the PLO state.

Jordan too will lose from a PLO-style peace, because no part of the West Bank will have been transferred to its sovereignty. The PLO is likely to threaten Amman even before it turns its attention to Jaffa and Acre.

The PLO does not have any more power than the Likud to impose a peace agreement on its own terms. Not all the world supports the establishment of a Palestinian state between Israel and Jordan. True, the countries involved in the political negotiations in our area, and those that would be the neighbours of a Palestinian-PLO state, are a minority in the world, but they are a decisive minority.

The U.S. is the only country outside our region involved in the peace negotiations. It also realizes that the establishment of a Palestinian-PLO state is incompatible with the peace process. President Reagan said this explicitly in his election campaign and he has said it again since.

The countries that support the PLO solution do so largely because they see only two possible alternatives: either a Likud-style annexation of the territories, or the establishment of a Palestinian-PLO state. Of these two choices, most of them prefer the latter.

Some of these countries don't know the facts well enough and are deluding themselves that the PLO solution can succeed, and that if the PLO achieves national independence, it will become flexible and moderate and will live in peace with its neighbours.

However, despite the considerable support that the PLO solution enjoys, it doesn't have much of a chance. Israel certainly can't impose its own solution, but it is strong enough to prevent the establishment of a Palestinian-PLO state.

Still another extreme solution is the one advanced by Jordan. King Hussein says that he will make peace with Israel if it withdraws to the June 4, 1967 lines.

This would return to Jordan all the areas it lost in the Six Day War and solve the Palestinian problem, since Palestinian Arabs would then be living in one sovereign Arab state. But it would pose a palpable threat to Israel's security, and Israel will never agree to it. And as I have said, Israel has the political and military strength to prevent it.

THE ONLY SOLUTION that is not extreme is a compromise. By definition, a compromise does not fulfil all the aspirations of any party to it, but each of the parties gets what is most vital to it.

The parties to a possible compromise in this case are Israel, Jordan and the inhabitants of the territories. Territorial compromise will grant each of them what is most vital to it.

What Israel needs more than anything else is security. She can obtain this if the Jordan Rift from the Beisan Valley to the Dead Sea and the southern part of the Gaza Region remain under its control. Proper deployment of military forces and civilian settlements in these frontier areas and demilitarization of the West Bank and the Gaza Region will prevent any foreign army from approaching the cease-fire lines. And if war breaks out in the east, it will start on the Jordan, not on the Green Line. East Jerusalem, the Etzion Bloc, and a few changes along the Green Line are necessary both for Israel's security and to prevent future misunderstandings.

WHAT THE ARAB INHABITANTS of the administered areas need most of all is to be free and part of a sovereign Arab state in which the Palestinians are a majority. This is what they all desire. Some would prefer a new state led by the PLO, and others opt for Jordanian sovereignty. Most, it is reasonable to assume, will accept one of these solutions. Their main desire is to be rid of Israeli rule.

A compromise solution in which areas in the West Bank and the Gaza Region are appended to Jordan will mean — from the Palestinians' standpoint — that they are not getting a new Palestinian state headed by the PLO. However, they will be free, and most of them will be in a sovereign Arab state in which they are the majority.

Under a compromise solution, Jordan will not recover all the areas it lost in the Six Day War but it will get back a considerable part of them, and it will be free from the danger implicit in the establishment of a Palestinian-PLO state west of the Jordan River.

A peace agreement with Israel will gain Jordan significant economic advantages. An outlet to the Mediterranean Sea and economic cooperation along the long frontier with Israel offer wide scope for fruitful economic cooperation.

SUCH A COMPROMISE solution will also be acceptable to most of the nations of the free world, which are interested in peace in the region and an ending of the Palestinian problem.

Right now, of course, there is no practical possibility of conducting negotiations for fixing the permanent status of the administered areas and recognized and agreed borders between ourselves and Jordan, but the Camp David framework provides for an interim period of five years' autonomy. The autonomy negotiations have been at a standstill for more than a year, however, because Egypt and the U.S. reject the Likud government's ideas about administrative autonomy throughout the West Bank from the Jordan to the Green Line and in the Gaza Strip.

A concept that includes a readiness to grant greater autonomy, though not over the entire area, seems to stand a better chance of breaking the political ice. The Jordan Rift, East Jerusalem, the Etzion Bloc and the southern part of the Gaza Strip would remain under Israeli authority and would be included in the "defined security zones" mentioned in the Camp David agreement as zones in which Israeli forces would remain. The Arab inhabitants would manage their own affairs in the autonomy framework, with Israel retaining a direct interest in the following two spheres: the ability to anticipate terrorist activity; and finding a method of using the underground waters shared by the West Bank and the coastal lowlands that will satisfy both sides.

IF JORDAN really intended to dissociate itself from the West Bank and hand the area over to the PLO and the Palestinians, it would have behaved quite differently from what it has in many regards, such as cooperating in the open bridges policy; granting Jordanian citizenship to the residents of the West Bank; and recognizing the Jordanian dinar as official currency in the West Bank.

Jordanian policy is aimed at having its cake and eating it, too. Jordan relies on Israel to prevent a Palestinian-PLO state on the West Bank from materializing, and can therefore allow itself to pay lip-service to the PLO as sole representative of the Palestinians.

In the Arab world, it has good ties with Iraq and Saudi Arabia, and in the world at large it is being courted by both the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

In these circumstances, Jordan can remain rejectionist and not join the negotiations, throw smiles at everyone, and keep the "West Bank option" open.

From Israel's standpoint, Jordan is needed for the beginning of the implementation of autonomy in the West Bank. If the autonomy is not to develop into a Palestinian-PLO state, Israel needs a sovereign Arab partner. This partner can only be

Jordan. In this matter Jordan can fill a role that Israel cannot fill: it can be the alternative to the PLO.

One of the key problems that will confront the governments of Israel, Egypt, the U.S. and all the countries supporting a peace settlement in our region as soon as agreement is reached on autonomy is how to get Jordan to participate.

However, even if Jordan does not join in the peace process immediately agreement is reached on autonomy, there is the possibility of continuing the process by implementing autonomy in the Gaza Region alone for a start.

Egypt has stated a number of times that she is not interested in ruling over the Gaza Strip forever and the territorial-compromise concept envisions the Gaza Region as part of the Jordanian Palestinian state.

If the local population manage their own affairs successfully, it will be possible to apply pressure on Jordan to join the peace process. This will create the possibility of instituting autonomy in the West Bank as well.

IF THE AUTONOMY releases tensions and heightens mutual trust, there are prospects that those involved will moderate their stances and realize that full peace is worth a reasonable, fair compromise. It may well be that in this manner, the conditions will be created for the opening of negotiations leading to a peace agreement between ourselves and Jordan, an agreement that will also solve the Palestinian problem in the framework of a Jordanian Palestinian state.

But even if Jordan continues to hesitate, Israel will not be to blame for the absence of peace momentum, and the PLO will start losing support.

Israel's next government must propose solutions different from those offered by the outgoing one. It must stress the security considerations, Israel's reluctance to rule over one and a quarter million Palestinian Arabs who do not wish to be governed by it, and Israel's readiness to compromise. Such a stance will offer the world an entirely different set of possible solutions.

It must no longer be a question of a Palestinian-PLO state versus "administrative autonomy for the inhabitants" and annexation by Israel, but a Palestinian-PLO state versus full autonomy, the endangering of Israel's security, and territorial compromise that will give all the parties involved what is most vital to each of them.

The odds seem to favour territorial compromise.

The author is secretary of the Labour Party.

SETTLER DISPUTE TO BE HEARD IN ARAB COURT

Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 15-21 Mar 81 p 7

[Excerpt] A shooting incident between two Gush Emunim settlers from Kiryat Arba settlement will be heard in a Palestinian court, by a Palestinian judge and argued by a Palestinian lawyer. The damage suit dates from a 1973 quarrel between former partners of a colonial building block factory. It was originally taken on by a Gush Emunim lawyer who attempted to pursue it in the Jerusalem District court. But the case between the two settlers was thrown out of that court which claimed it had no jurisdiction in matters involving civilians in the West Bank. The High Court confirmed the Jerusalem court's ruling. Had it decided otherwise, the precedent-setting case would have extended Israeli law to the West Bank in direct contravention of international law--not to mention the Camp David accords.

East Jerusalem lawyer Elias Khouri has taken on the case, which will be heard in Hebron's local district court. It is a politically significant development--and a setback to settlers seeking self-government on the West Bank--since it formally recognizes the jurisdiction of Arab courts and Jordanian law over Israeli settlers. The shooting will be treated as any civil damage (torte) case occurring in the West Bank.

Over the past few months settlers have been meeting to organize their demands for more control over administrative affairs in the settlements and greater legal protection from the government. This week's announcement of the establishment of two more Israeli local councils in the settlements of Ariel and Malale Ephraim brings the total to nine. Local courts are also scheduled to be set up. The first will be in April, in Kiryat Arba, perhaps not so coincidentally.

CSO: 4820

RELIGIOUS JEWS CENTER OF VIOLENCE, CONTROVERSY

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST MAGAZINE in English 20 Mar 81 p 7

[Article by Abraham Rabinovich]

[Text]

REB ARELE'S Hassidim have a reputation for both piety and militancy.

They pray louder and longer and they are reputed to fight harder than any other group in Mea She'arim.

"They're more violent and extreme than Neturei Karta," says a *haredi* leader who has personally felt threatened by them.

"They are a genuine religious community and quietist," says a professor of philosophy. The dictionary definition of quietism is passive and devotional.

A municipal official says Reb Arele's men have been involved in numerous recent skirmishes, including the smashing of cars on Shabbat, the burning of garbage bins and a raid on an apartment containing student revellers.

Prof. Gershom Scholem has cited the Reb Arele sect as one of the outstanding manifestations of contemporary Jewish mysticism and a unique phenomenon in the history of modern Hassidism.

To police, the roof of the sect's stronghold, Toldot Aharon Yeshiva, seems as well stocked with bottles and other missiles, including flares, as the study halls below are stocked with holy books.

THE POLICE raid two weeks ago on the Reb Arele sanctuary focused attention on this reclusive group whose distinctive history is little known to the public despite its recent notoriety.

The sect was founded by an exceptional personality, Rabbi Aharon (Arele) Roth, who came to

Jerusalem some 50 years ago from the city of Satmar in Rumania (formerly part of Hungary). With no rabbinic lineage of his own — his father was a merchant — he created a new Hassidic community — an event which Prof. Scholem, the foremost authority on Jewish mysticism, has called unique in modern times. "Here in Jerusalem 30 years ago," wrote Scholem in 1970, "we were witness to the birth of a living Hassidic community as a valid historical response. It was no mere continuation of a line of devout *rebbe*s, sons and grandsons of *tzaddikim* (saintly leaders)... but the rise of a *tzaddik* in his own right, devoid of lineage."

Venerable Jerusalem *haredim* still recall Reb Arele with awe. "He was a magnetic personality and a very great kabbalist," says one man who is now an opponent of the Hassidic group because of its politics. "He would go to the countryside with people who wanted to talk to him — out past where the Holyland Hotel is, or the other side of the Mount of Olives — and he would sit on a rock and talk."

Even as a youngster in yeshiva, his charismatic personality had drawn fellow students to a study circle he founded. It was his teacher, the Blozower Rebbe, who encouraged him to establish a Hassidic community even though he was not a descendant of *tzaddikim*.

After spending several years in Jerusalem in the late 1920s, he returned to Satmar, where a new personality had meanwhile arrived to dominate the religious scene — Rabbi Yoel Teitelbaum, the Satmar Rebbe, who was appointed rabbi of the city.

Reb Arele set up his own syn-

agogue with a few followers, but the pressure of Satmar Hassidim caused him to move with his followers to the town of Bergasa, near the Czech border. With the Nazi invasion of Poland in 1939 he returned to Jerusalem. In the Shomrei Emunim Synagogue which he established on Mea She'arim Street, he began to attract a small group of followers. Most of them were working-men and not scholars.

"This Hassidic way was an innovation in Jerusalem," says an Eda Haredit official. "The *haredi* community was not Hassidic. They were *Minagdim* (opponents of Hassidism) who followed the teachings of the Vilna Gaon and believed that they should devote themselves exclusively to study. They lived on contributions from abroad. The Hassidim felt that you could live a normal life and work as long as you had a rebbe."

REB ARELE proved even more extreme in his Hassidic practices than the Satmar, who is generally regarded today as the symbol of *haredi* extremism. The intensity and the length of the prayers in his synagogue were unusual. Old-timers still recall the shouted words and the lugubrious intonation of the rebbe's prayers. (In this he saw himself as a follower of a Ruman rebbe, Reb Uri of Strelak, who lived 150 years before.) Reb Arele insisted, recalls a *haredi* leader, that his Hassidim stay with him in the synagogue all day long on Shabbat.

He also insisted that they exchange their normal dress for a "uniform," and he chose the golden, striped kaftan worn by the *haredi* community of the Old Yishuv in Jerusalem. (The kaftan was an adaptation of an Arab festive gar-

ment made of damascene silk, hardly seen any more in the Arab community. The *haredi* kaftan has a small collar, the Arab kaftan does not.) This outfit is still worn on Shabbat by other Jerusalem descendants of the Old Yishuv, but when there is a riot, wearers of this distinctive garb are usually assumed to be Reb Arele's men, rightly or wrongly. Weekdays, the Reb Arele Hassidim wear a kaftan with blue and gold stripes if they are married. If not, they wear black.

The Old Yishuv *haredim* regarded Reb Arele's group and other ultra-orthodox types from Hungary as extremists. "We used to call their area 'Harat el-Majanin'" (Arabic for Quarter of the Lunatics), recalls a black-garbed *haredi* whose family has lived in Jerusalem for several generations. Reb Arele and his relatively small group of followers were so absorbed in piety, said the veteran Jerusalemite, that they did not become involved in politics.

Things changed when Reb Arele died at the age of 52 in 1948. There was a fight for his Hassidic throne between his only son, Avraham Haim Roth, and his only son-in-law, Avraham Yitzhak Kohn, a Satmar student, whom Reb Arele nominated as his successor in his will. The son retained the synagogue but the bulk of the Hassidim went with the son-in-law who established his own seat inside the main Mea She'arim compound.

Twenty years ago his group moved to its present location at the bottom of Mea She'arim Street and began building an impressive institution with a large synagogue for the entire sect, a yeshiva with about 100 students, a Talmud Tora for about 300 youngsters, a *kollel* for married students, and a dormitory.

Under the son-in-law, the growing sect began to enter political life as a major force within the anti-Zionist Eida Haredit, which believes that a secular Jewish state is a mockery of the promised Messianic redemption.

The Eida Haredit provides a religious court, kashrut supervision and other religious services to the ultra-Orthodox community in Jerusalem and is the major authority in the Mea She'arim area. Reb Arele's Hasidim hold six of the 26 positions on the Eida executive.

Prof. Jacob Taubes, a secular authority on religion who has established close ties with the Reb Arele community, says the sect resembles a monastic order more than it does a traditional Hassidic court. "They have a disciplined life that makes it possible to live with nobility in spite of their abysmal poverty."

The 500 members of the sect (male adults) and their families must abide by an 83-page book of regulations that lays down strict rules of behaviour and dress. Members are forbidden to live outside Jerusalem or even to leave the city for more than three days without permission. A transgression of any kind by a member must be discreetly brought to his attention, say the regulations. If this is ineffective, the rebbe and the group as a whole must be informed. "Our group is a single ship, and if one small hole is bored in it the entire ship is endangered," says the regulations book.

The sect is marked by a unity that is exceptional even in the Hassidic world. Once a year, says Taubes, all members gather in the synagogue, from the rebbe down to the youngest bar-mitzva *bocher*, formally to sign adherence to the sect's regulations. There is only one *minyan* on Shabbat so that all the members can pray with the rebbe. The sect has its own educational system, including a school for girls which prepares them for their arduous role as wives. There are periodic closed meetings between the rebbe and his followers. "It is a primal community," says Taubes, "an extended family structure."

The morning prayer, which takes about three-quarters of an hour elsewhere on a weekday, takes more than two hours at Reb Arele's. The Hasidim almost shout their prayers, as if they were trying to

breach the gates of heaven, and the tunes are dirge-like. "Sad tunes," said a *haredi* outsider. "Tunes that touch the heart," said a Reb Arele Hassid.

REB ARELE'S teaching emphasized faith, says Taubes. "He gave a new colour to the notion of *emuna* (faith) which was a response to the cataclysm of the Holocaust and the rapid secularization of the Jewish community afterwards."

"They're always looking for action," says a prominent Mea She'arim opponent of the group. "I think their inclination to violence stems from the fact that they are people who don't have a tradition of *hassidut*."

A spokesman for the sect denies that it has any violent leanings. "We do participate in demonstrations, which is a democratic right, isn't it? We don't engage in violence. One of our members, a man in his 50s, did do something violent a few months ago and the rebbe barred him from entering the synagogue for two weeks. That may not seem like much to you but the social pressure on such a man is very great."

However, the missiles that periodically come down from the yeshiva roof indicate that Toldot Aharon is not a nest of pacifism. The spokesman himself smiles when asked about the seeming prominence of Reb Arele's Hasidim in riots. Citing the group's distinctive dress, he says "We've got a technical problem. We're noticeable." He attempted to draw a distinction between the sect as such, which, he said, refrains from violence, and individual members who may act on their own initiative. He also attempted to distinguish between street violence and defence of the Toldot Aharon premises. "Our strength is that we operate as a unit," he said.

Taubes, a rabbi's son who was dean of the faculty of philosophy and social sciences at the Free University of Berlin, teaches now in Paris and Berlin and is currently on a sabbatical in Jerusalem. He maintains that violence is repugnant to the rebbe and the sect as a whole. He acknowledges, however, that some of the youth may be influenced by the extremists of Neturei Karta. "This is the greatest worry of the elders."

During the Sabbath
seudas shlishit
(shalasheeda in
Yiddish) a communal
repast in the syna-
gogue just before
the final evening
prayer, the group
sends out a force
of "monitors" in
times of tension
to prevent a flare-
up in the area by
other ultra-Orthodox
elements until prayers
at Toldot Aharon are
concluded.

The rules of piety imposed by its
founder leads the sect to observe
the Sabbath at least an hour longer
than the rest of the country because
of a lack of clarity he perceived in
the Halacha as to when the Sabbath
ends. (It was during this extended
Sabbath period that the recent
police siege got under way, with
hundreds of Hassidim still in the
synagogue.) At the shalasheedes, the
Hassidim sit in the gathering
darkness singing "zmirot," most of
them written by Reb Arele himself,
or his mentor, the Blazowa Rebbe.

The police raid and the extensive
damage done to the building led the
sect to open its premises for the first
time to reporters, who were ex-
pected to see to it that "atrocity"
pictures were published around the
world.

Seen on home ground, the men of
Reb Arele do not resemble
samurais. The young students in the
corridors and the leaders in the in-
nermost room are courteous and
reasonable. But when the spirit is
upon them, these individuals are
bound by a single will. They press
around the rebbe's *nish* (table),
hundreds of young Hassidim sway-
ing in unison, shouting out their
song, abruptly stopping, straining
forward to hear the rebbe's softly
spoken words. It is a world at peace
with itself but not with the world
outside.

Out there, men in other uniforms
may be gathering to engage Reb
Arele's men in a non-Talmudic dis-
putation over the Messianic
redemption. □

AUTHORITIES PRESSURE GAZA FARMERS

Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 29 Mar-4 Apr 81 p 6

[Edited from AL-TALIA]

[Text] Farmers cultivating Mowasi land, a form of agriculture unique to this area of Palestine in the Gaza Strip area, are the latest group of Palestinians to come under the threat of confiscation or arbitrary dispossession by Israelis. The authorities in the Gaza Strip are taking measures, under military law, to remove farmers from their land and settlers from Israeli settlements in the region are vandalising cultivated areas at night.

Imminent Dangers

The mowasi lying between Al-Zaweidi and Khan Yunis face the danger of being buried altogether. Settlers from Katif, Gnei Tal and Nahal settlements are constantly warning the Palestinian farmers to leave. The settlers send excavators at night, damage the crops and bury the mowasi. The authorities do not allow the farmers to stay on their lands after 5.00 p.m.

One morning last January, Ahmad Fayed al-Astal arrived at his Tal al-Qatif mowasi to find it completely destroyed. The loss was estimated to be 1820,000. Last month several mowasi were destroyed in Tal Zeidun. Between 50 and 70 dunums have been damaged and confiscated there so far.

These mowasi are damaged in order to establish or expand Israeli settlements. Three settlements were constructed in the Tal Zeidun area under the pretext that the cultivated lands in the mowasi belonged to the British Mandatory High Commissioner, and hence revert to the state. The al-Astal family who owns this mowasi has been cultivating the lands since the period of Ottoman rule.

Farmers there told us that authorities intend to throw them off their land. "We were told not to plant any kind of trees even in our own registered lands. The authorities passed legislation forbidding us to dig wells.

We are forbidden to set up any place of residence on our lands and not allowed to remain there after 5.00 p.m.

The Mowasi

The population of the towns and villages of Gaza and northern Sinai have depended on the land of the mowasi in Beit Lahia-Alzawaidi, Qarar-Khan Yunis and Rafah for generations to produce vegetable crops such as potatoes, tomatoes, beans and cabbage.

Mowasi are level areas of sand, found along the hilly, sandy coastline. Under these flat tracts of land, water can be found. The farmer digs and excavates until he reaches white sand of a certain density, which lies above the water.

The farmer begins by estimating, according to personal experience, the depth of the water below the sandy heaps. If the water is one metre deep, for example, he clears sand away from an area of one to three dunums of land. The removed sand is either accumulated in one heap or spread around the cleared area to form a barrier.

Next the farmer fertilizes the land and plants crops. During the season, the farmer may try again to remove further quantities of sand from same masia (singular for Mowasi) to be closer to the water below.

When rain falls, the farmer must return the sand to the masia, or else the area turns into a swamp.

One Mowasi farmer detailed the types of Israeli pressure for us: "Officials from the Israeli settlements are constantly harassing and provoking us. They demand that we leave the land and sometimes they grab our identity cards or arrest us.

"The authorities transferred all the families who were living in mowasi to other places.

"Any citizen who consumes extra water is fined thousands of Israeli lira.

"The authorities are deceiving us: they ask us to destroy our own mowasi in which we have been working for tens of years, and after that they want us to file requests to rent the land from them. But the authorities have not yet complied with any rental request."

Some farmers were deceived by this trick, gave up their mowasi and are now landless. They submitted rental applications to a special Military Appeals Committee which meets every two to three months in Gaza. It authorized only two or three out of every hundred applications.

The farmers also face problems marketing their agricultural produce because there are no paved roads leading to the mowasi, so they are forced to transfer crops on donkeys. Moreover, merchants in Gaza offer only low prices to the farmers.

The farmers complained that the local agriculture department under Israeli administration does not offer them financial aid or services.

BRIEFS

WESTWIND PRODUCTION INCREASE--The Westwind Executive Jet, manufactured by Israel Aircraft Industries, last year brought in \$200 million in foreign sales. There are now orders for a year in advance, and to meet the demand production has been increased from four planes a month to five planes a month. Each plane costs about \$4 million. In the United States, the Westwind is in second place in sales, behind the U.S.-made Lear Jet. [TA071411 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Apr 81 TA]

SETTLEMENTS SUPPORT--The support for the establishment of new settlements in Judaea and Samaria somewhat surpasses the objection to their establishment according to a nationwide public opinion poll conducted by the Pori Institute at the request of HA'ARETZ. The question "Would you say that you highly support, support a little, oppose a little or highly oppose the establishment of new settlements in Judaea and Samaria now? Fifty-one percent expressed support (34.4 percent "highly support," and 16.6 percent "support a little") while 42.2 percent expressed opposition (14.1 percent "opposed a little," and 28.1 percent "highly opposed"). The rest, 6.8 percent, had no view on the matter. The pollster, Pori Institute's manager Refa'el Gil, notes that in all Pori polls conducted in recent years on this subject (see HA'ARETZ on 25 March 1980, 7 July 1980 and 18 August 1980) the percentage of those opposed to settlements has always exceeded the percentage of supporters while now an opposite trend is noted in the public opinion as the rate of those supporting settlements exceeds those who object to settlements by about 10 percent. It should be noted that among the supporters one finds a higher rate of people of low socioeconomic level while among the opponents to settlements one finds a higher number of people who belong to a higher socioeconomic level. The public opinion poll encompassed a representative sample of 1,200 people. [Text] [TA051350 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Apr 81 p 3]

NATIONAL DEBTS--The aggregate foreign currency debts accrued by the State of Israel amounted to \$16,931 billion in November 1980, compared with \$16,566 billion at the end of October 1980. In the 12 months between November 1979 and November 1980 Israel's debts in foreign currency grew by \$1,829 billion or 12 percent. In November 1980 the foreign currency debt grew by \$347 million--a 12-percent increase. The government's debts rose by \$294 million, whereas the private debts amounted to an increase of \$53 million. The overall government debts, including the State of Israel bonds and shares, constituted 72.2 percent of the entire foreign currency debts at the end of November 1980. [Text] [Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Apr 81 p 2 TA]

ALIGNMENT, LIKUD POLL--Although the majority of the Israeli public is not pleased with the Likud government, it does not believe an alignment led government would have done better. This emerges from a national public opinion poll commissioned by HA'ARETZ and conducted by the Pori Institute. In response to the question: "Do you think a government headed by the alignment would have more successfully combatted the problems faced by the present government," 45 percent answered in the negative compared with 34.7 percent who replied in the affirmative. Pori Institute director Refa'el Gil, who conducted the poll, noted that this data is identical to the results of the February poll, where 45.7 percent also replied in the affirmative--signifying that the alignment has not succeeded in bending public opinion over to its side in the last few months. An additional 7.7 percent (5.1 percent in February) said that an alignment government "may perhaps" face the problems encountered by the state better than the Likud government, but this depends on the nature of the problems and on the person who heads the alignment government. Some 12.6 percent (versus 15.4 percent in February) said that they "do not know" whether or not an alignment government would have done better than a Likud government. The poll surveyed 1,200 men and women, regarded as a representative cross-section who were interviewed in private in their homes all over the country. [Text] [TA061213 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Apr 81 p 3]

NEW WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS--The joint government-Zionist federation settlement committee has approved the establishment of two new settlements beyond the green line: one on Radar Hill, north of Jerusalem; and the other southeast of Jericho with the temporary name of Bet Ha'arava B. According to the plan, the settlement on Radar Hill will be set up near the green line. The nature of this settlement has not yet been determined. Bet Ha'arava B is part of the program to surround Jericho with six settlements on all sides. Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon will try to get a special budget from the Finance Ministry in order to set up the Bet Ha'arava B settlement and it is possible that a Nahal foothold will be erected on the site at the first stage. [Text] [TA060536 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 6 Apr 81]

GOLAN SETTLEMENT CAMPAIGN--The center for directing potential settlers to the development towns has received 1,300 applications from people who want to take advantage of the campaign called "build your home in the Jordan Rift Valley." Of those applicants, 600 families have been invited to tour the settlement site and 220 families are already in the latest stages of absorption. At a news conference held by the director of the center, Zohar Gindel, in Qazrin it was reported that in view of the success of a similar campaign in the Jordan Rift Valley, a similar settlement campaign has been declared for the Golan. It will commence in the next few weeks. [Text] [TA051524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Apr 81]

UNEMPLOYMENT DROPS--The labor minister has said that the number of job openings went up by 1,500 last month, reaching 16,000. In his opinion, this indicates that the unemployment situation has stabilized. Our correspondent, Yon Feder, reported that the number of job seekers similarly rose by 1,400, mainly in Haifa. He added that the employment offices did not succeed in supplying workers for 3,000 job offerings, especially for blue-collar work in agriculture, industry and hoteliering. [Text] [TA050800 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Apr 81 TA]

COLLEGE ELECTIONS--The "Nationalist" (PLO) List took all seven places in yesterday's election for the Bi'r Zayt University Student Council, roundly defeating the Islamic List by more than 500 votes. The results of the student council election at the largest institute of higher learning in the West Bank were considered by many observers as an important indicator of the political mood of the younger sector of the Palestinian intelligentsia. At An-Najah College in Nablus, the student council is controlled by a joint Nationalist-Islamic List which took office 6 months ago. Nationalists also control the student council at Bethlehem University. Recent, pro-Islamic elements have been far more active in the campuses on the West Bank, but "it is more a case of Islamic outspokenness than an Islamic revival," according to one former student who maintains close contacts with Bi'r Zayt. [David Richardson] [Text] [TA070730 Jerusalem POST in English 7 Apr 81 p 2]

RADIOACTIVE HELICOPTER PARTS--An Israeli operational test of the use of radioactive bulbs during helicopter close formation night flights was described by Mr Mordekhai Goren, assistant to the director-general of the Israel Aircraft Industry, at a conference held in Miami in the United States under the sponsorship of the American Department of Defense. Participating in the conference of the Production Technologies Advisory Commission were the representatives of the three services of the United States armed forces, the key agencies of the Department of Defense, and representatives of the American armament industry. The hosts were the United States Army ground forces. They initiated the Seventh Conference of Foreign Production Technologies, and they invited the Israel Aircraft Industry to participate. The representative of the Aircraft Industry described to the participants the use of radioactive bulbs while stressing that they increase the safety of the night flight. The bulbs also permit close formation flight and close landing for the purpose of unloading equipment or troops without dispersing over many kilometers. The material, which is installed on the helicopter blades, is nuclear and is called "tritium." It can provide energy for 12 years. The use of these light bulbs is cheaper than any other conventional lighting medium. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Feb 81 p 10] 5830

SPENDING ON MERRAVA--In the past decade Israel invested about \$334 million in the production and development of the Merkava tank with the bulk of the investment, about \$200 million, representing an inventory of raw materials and equipment. This was reported this weekend by Major General Yisrael Tal who spoke at Tel Aviv University on the economic worthwhileness of producing the Merkava tank. Major General Tal who is responsible for the development and production of the Merkava tank for the defense system also reported that Israel has already begun the production of new models of the tank. He discussed the difficulties which Israel grappled with even before the Israeli tank was developed. He noted among other things that at the end of the 1960's when the British sold tanks (Chieftains) to Israel, they were subject to heavy pressure by Western nations. Major General Tal added that the fact that the local industry has for years been compelled to rebuild tank junks improved its skill which is reflected today in the production of the Merkava tank. He also emphasized that local production of the tank is significantly cheaper in comparison with the procurement of a similar quality tank from foreign sources. He recommended that Israel achieve this achievement in the production of other weapons. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Jan 81 p 8] 5830

1980-1981 HOUSING STARTS--Building contractors throughout Israel made a record number of over 2,000 public housing starts, about 20 percent of the annual total, in the last week of the financial year which ended on 31 March 1981. This enabled Housing Minister David Levi to achieve his target of between 10,000 to 11,000 housing starts in fiscal year 1980-1981 despite the fact that only 5,000 starts were made during the first 11 months of the year. Housing Ministry figures show that of a total of 10,700 starts, 3,100 were made in the Jerusalem district, 2,474 in the central district, 1,475 in the Galilee, 1,470 in the Negev and 1,014 in the Haifa district. Another 1,200 starts were made in rural areas. [TA061017 Jerusalem POST in English 5 Apr 81 p 3 TA]

ARMS DEAL WITH IRAN--Kuwait, 3 Apr (INA)--High-level diplomatic sources in the Netherlands capital have said that the Zionist entity has agreed to supply the Persian regime with various weapons including Uzi machineguns. Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' cites these sources as saying that approval came in the wake of the recent talks between the Zionist entity and Persian regime in the Netherlands. The paper indicates that these weapons were previously purchased by the shah's regime and include ammunition for the air force and long-range artillery. [Text] [JN031206 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 3 Apr 81]

GAZA ROAD CONSTRUCTION--Gaza--Construction on a new 50 mile road has just begun. It will run from Rafah to the Gaza Valley, linking the settlements of Katif and Nasharim. Informed Israeli sources revealed that plans are already prepared to annex more lands for future satellite settlements of Nasharim. [Text] [Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 15-21 Mar 81 p 2]

CSO: 4820

'U.S.-FRENCH PLAN' ON LEBANON CRITICIZED

JN130726 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Apr 81 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "The West Is Partitioning Lebanon"]

[Text] The features of the U.S.-French plan, which was announced following the U.S. secretary of state's brief visit to the French capital and his meeting with the French foreign minister, became clear in the past 24 hours. This plan aims at bringing about the objectives of the alignment [takattul] that has arisen in Lebanon against the Arabs in Lebanon and against Lebanon's Arab commitments. The stand of this alignment developed and reached the extent of allying itself with Israel, arming itself with Israeli arms, fighting alongside Israeli forces and merging its objectives with those of Israel against Lebanon and its unity and against the Arab presence in Lebanon.

What is odd is for the French foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state to act and hold preliminary contacts and call for sending military forces to Lebanon without the knowledge of Lebanon or the Arabs and without consulting them, as if Lebanon is a U.S. or French colony and as if Arab territory has become, in the eyes of the world, free for any invader who wishes to possess it. What is even more odd is for France, the United States and other states in collusion with them to give themselves the right to interfere and stand between the Lebanese state and some of its citizens and between the Arab deterrent forces and those deviating from Lebanon's unity, security and Arabism. They are doing this as if they are dealing with some armed cowboys in Texas or some night gangs in Paris.

No Lebanese can forfeit pan-Arab right in Lebanon, even if he forfeits his personal right in Lebanon and places it under the control of any Western power. Anyone who thinks that it is possible to exploit the Lebanese crisis to spread Israel's shadow over the Arab homeland, under a sectarian or communal cover, errs. The scheme which, on the surface, aims at dividing Lebanon along sectarian or communal lines actually aims at dividing Lebanon into an Arab part, in which the Palestinians would find a substitute to their Palestinian homeland which is occupied by Israel, while the international forces would stand facing the Arab forces as if they were protecting the other part from the Arab threat.

Thus, the colonialist-Zionist plan is becoming clear and the Arabs are finding their homeland and destiny the subject of international bargains and the Arab League is seeing its flag being faced with another flag, and most probably the coverup requires that it be the UN flag. Thus, the process of sectarian statelets in the region begins as a fruit of the internationalization of the Lebanese crisis.

It is high time for the Arab League to take firm control of the crisis and foil all the international conspiracies which pretend to be concerned about the welfare of part of Lebanon and part of its people. It is high time for the Arab League to give Lebanese legitimacy everything that it needs to cut off the hands that are reaching out against Lebanon's unity and Arabism and to cut off the tongues that are showering treason inside and outside Lebanon with excessive praise. It is high time for the Arab League to stop the spreading of Israel's shadow and sectarian statelets in the Arab land surrounding the Israeli entity.

CSO: 4802

COLLECTIVE ARAB ACTION ON LEBANON ADVOCATED

JN130752 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 13 Apr 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Before the Catastrophe Occurs"]

[Text] Once again, the specter of "internationalization" is hovering over the Lebanese arena and the sides which, from the beginning, schemed to bring the crisis to a head are depicting this solution as the only remaining hope to save Lebanon. Despite our firm belief that Arab efforts should now be channeled to think of ways to save Lebanon from falling into the trap of internationalization, we cannot ignore the fact that the quarters which entered Lebanon under the guise of protecting it and establishing security and stability are the same quarters which paved the way for taking Lebanon to the brink of the abyss, giving the covetous international forces the justification to pounce on Lebanon and achieve their designs.

If France considers what it terms its "special relationship" with Lebanon a justification to talk about an international outlet for the Lebanese crisis, the United States will consider this outlet a practical opportunity to stress to the states in the region that the Arab-Israeli conflict is not the major source of danger which the Arabs should rally against, thus driving them to join the capitulation process begun by Al-Sadat.

It is a carefully studied scheme and perhaps it is the last chapters of the carefully studied plot to ensnare Lebanon and all the countries in the region in such a fate. Confrontation of such a scheme is no longer responsibility of fragmented Lebanon alone or that of any one Arab country. It is the responsibility of all the Arabs who care about their existence and future. Therefore, only collective Arab action can save Lebanon and the entire region. Since the "internationalization" which is threatening Lebanon is serious and quick this time, the Arab action required to save Lebanon should be more serious and more quick so that we will not wake up one day and find nothing to do but to wail and lament and bite our fingers.

CSO: 4802

VICTORY FOR RATIONALITY SEEN IN AL-MUHAYSIN'S RELEASE

JN150747 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Apr 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Welcome Home"]

[Text] The release of abducted Jordanian charge d'affaires in Beirut Hisham al-Muhaysin is a victory for rationality in the midst of madness, and for humanity in the midst of inhumanity. The fact that he has been freed and reunited with his family and country is heartening for him and his loved ones above all. We share their joy and relief, and we welcome him back home with admiration and affection.

In the wake of his ordeal, however, there remains a legacy of gruesome resort to force, violence and intemperance by those quarters in the Middle East who so easily abuse the concept of pan-Arab action while professing endlessly to champion to it. There always have been and always will be quarrels among Arab states, but these can only be resolved satisfactorily through a dialogue among equals. The facile resort to violence, sabotage and personal threats is not only reflection of the perpetrating party's desperation, but also a blot on the already weakened idea of concerted Arab action in the service of a common struggle. Hisham al-Muhaysin was a personal victim of this tendency, but his ordeal has evoked feelings of revulsion and disgust among all people in the Arab world. It was not necessary. It was not useful. It was not honourable. It served no rational purpose other than to throw the Arabs into a further degree of disagreement and disarray. We are delighted at his safe release, and at the ultimate triumph of reason and patience.

CSJ: 4820

BRIEFS

KING HUSAYN-CARRINGTON TALKS--London, 15 Apr (PETRA)--His Majesty King Husayn received in his place of residence in London this morning Lord Carrington, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, and held talks with him on various international and bilateral issues. His Majesty stressed that the Palestinian issue is the crux of conflict in the Middle East and that Israel's aggressive policy is the basic danger against the Arab people and the region's states. He called on the European group to intensify efforts in order to condemn and stop the repeated Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon. He also called on the European group to crystallize their stand in a manner that keeps the region away from the policy of polarization and axes, stressing that recovery of the Arab right to Palestine is the basic element which can provide real security and stability in the region. His Majesty stressed the need to give the Palestinian people the opportunity to exercise their right to self-determination and establishment of their own independent state on their soil. He also called on the European group to intensify dialogue with the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. [Text] [JN151549 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 15 Apr 81]

TRANSMISSION LOAN--Amman, 15 April (J.T.)--The government has granted Jordan Television a JD 900,000 loan to help it boost its transmission to all areas of the west and east banks, as well as neighbouring Arab countries, AL-RA'Y newspaper reported today. It said that Jordan Television has recently floated a tender for a project to boost transmission in six months, starting in May. A total of eight international firms have so far submitted bids to carry out the project, the paper said. [Text] [Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 16 Apr 81 p 2]

F-15 FIGHTERS REQUESTED--Jordan has informed the United States that it wishes to purchase a number of F-15 aircraft, this reporter has learned from a U.S. source who has reliable information. This has become known "in recent weeks," and it may therefore be assumed that Jordan has reiterated this desire in the talks King Husayn and his brother have held with the secretary of state. Jordan has maintained, it has been learned, that its F-5 planes are becoming obsolete, and that both Saudi Arabia and Egypt, which at the time acquired the F-5, have since acquired more advanced planes, including the F-15. In the meantime, an "informal" announcement has been submitted to congress on the administration's intention to supply Jordan with 24 Cobra assault helicopters. According to the official explanation, these helicopters are a replacement for the second package of 100 tanks the administration had intended to supply to Jordan as part of the plan for the military strengthening of that country. The sale of the first 100 tanks was approved several months ago, with the intention of announcing the subsequent sale of another 100 tanks. However, Jordan received from Iraq 35 tanks of the same model which were captured from Iraq. Amman therefore decided to "forgo" the purchase of the additional tanks, requesting instead that the United States supply it with the Cobra helicopter gunships, which the administration agreed to do. It has also been learned that Egypt is stepping up its pressure on the United States to significantly speed up the supply of arms, armor and antitank weapons for its ground forces. The Egyptians say that 8 years after the Soviet Union ceased supplying Egypt with even spare parts, Egypt's ground forces are still 85 percent based on Soviet arms. So far Egypt has received only 30 of the 400 tanks the United States has agreed to supply it. [Mordekhay Barkay] [Excerpt] [TA070934 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Apr 81 pp 1, 3]

CSO: 4805

BRIEFS

REACTIONARIES THREATEN WOMEN'S RIGHTS--Women's Day was observed at Kuwait University last Sunday, 8 March when for the first time in many long years, Kuwait witnessed aware, educated women taking the reins of initiative into their hands. The crowds and the speeches were a demonstration of something deeper, for the time has come to talk about women's rights, not partially, but in the full sense of the word. It is time that some people cease viewing woman as half capable, as half a person, half a mind, half a citizen, and so forth. Women's rights are facing a bitter attack in Kuwait today from reactionary forces wanting to push them back 10 years. After the generation of the fifties which led demonstrations and burned the outward symbol of its backwardness in the streets, some people are coming forth to shatter woman's self-confidence from within, to make her acknowledge that she is only half a person. The speeches on Women's Day are an indication that the democratic and national consciousness in the country remains what it always was and that women are able to face with all confidence these currents which want them to retreat, telling them: "No, you do not have everything under your control."
[Text] [Kuwait: AL-TALI'AH in Arabic 11 Mar 81 pp 10-11]

CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

WATER TRANSFER PROJECT--Initial studies have started on gathering data for implementing a project to transfer water across the desert, the biggest project of its kind in the world. Sources of the planning administration at the General People's Committee for Land Reclamation said that 2 million cubic metres of drinking and irrigation water would be transferred across the desert using large pipes, from Taarbo and Alareer region in the south to the regions of Albariqa, southern Benghazi and Surt. The sources added that this big project would irrigate over 50,000 hectares of land in the coastal region, and supply agricultural and pastoral projects in the central regions, the cities of Albariqa, Surt and Southern Benghazi with drinking and irrigation water. Scientific studies have shown that a great quantity of underground drinking and irrigation water is present in Jamahiriya's southern regions. This water is also near the surface. [Valletta THE JAMAHIRIYA MAIL in English 28 Mar 81 p 5]

CSO: 4820

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH YAR, DJIBOUTI--Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly and of the Council of Ministers, has affirmed that there is a willingness by the leaderships of the two parts of Yemen to set up joint projects on the borders between the two parts. In a press interview with Djibouti Television and Radio, the brother secretary general explained that these projects included a number of service spheres, among them electricity and water which basically aimed at serving the sons of the Yemeni people in the two parts of the Yemeni homeland. The brother secretary general stressed the importance of strengthening and developing the bilateral relations that tie together the two brotherly countries and peoples in Democratic Yemen and Djibouti. He described the visit of Brother Hassan Gouled to our country as a beginning of a new stage of cooperation between the two countries. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also referred to the situation in the Horn of Africa area and emphasized the importance of solving problems between states of the area through dialog and peaceful means. He said this firm stand of Democratic Yemen had often been emphasized by it in the past. [Text] [LD111610 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Apr 81 EA]

MEETING WITH SOVIETS--Aden, 11 Apr (ANA)--'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party and prime minister of the PDRY, at 1200 today received members of the Soviet Communist Party delegation headed by the comrade deputy secretary of the Foreign Relations Department of the CPSU Central Committee Secretariat. Discussions during the meeting covered a number of important matters on the development of relations between the two friendly parties. The two sides also reviewed the progress made on the implementation of the cooperation protocol for 1981 signed between the two parties. During the meeting, the importance of the continued exchange of expertise and consultations between the two parties was stressed. A number of matters of common interest to both of them were also discussed. The meeting was attended by the USSR ambassador to Aden. [Text] [LD111616 Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Apr 81]

POLISARIO DELEGATION--Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly and of the Council of Ministers, has received Brother Mohamed Abdelaziz,

Polisario secretary general and president of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, and his delegation who are currently visiting our country. In a brotherly atmosphere Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the visiting delegation dealt with strengthening the revolutionary struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction. Chairman 'Ali Nasir praised the major victories being achieved by the Saharan people led by the Polisario. He stressed that our country will continue to stand alongside the struggle of the Saharan people until complete victory is won. The meeting also dealt with relations between the YSP and Polisario. Mohamed Abdelaziz expressed his pleasure at meeting Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and with its discussions with the Yemeni side, which serve the interests of the two peoples. He appreciated the victories being achieved by Democratic Yemen in all fields. [Text] [LD101750 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Apr 81 EA]

CSO: 4820

SAUDI ARABIA

BRIEFS

ARMS DELIVERY DENIED--Riyadh, 8 Apr (SPA)--Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani has denied reports that Saudi Arabia had sent arms to Chad via Sudan. He said that this report is utterly false and unfounded. He stressed that the government of the kingdom has a firm and clear policy which it pursues, namely, noninterference in the internal affairs of other states. [Text] [LDO81406 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1335 GMT 8 Apr 81]

CSO: 4820

NUMAYRI INTERVIEWED ON LIBYA, PALESTINE QUESTION

WC051121 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 5 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Cairo, 5 Apr (MENA)--Sudanese President Muhammad Ja'far Numayri has emphasized that the presence of Libyans on Sudan's borders with Chad does not worry the Sudanese people because Sudan has joint borders with Libya itself. He added that what does bother them is of course the fact that the Soviets come on the bandwagon of Libya. What is even more bothersome, he said, is the flow of refugees from Chad and the possibility of battles occurring on Sudanese territory between the refugees and those chasing them.

In an interview with ROSE AL-YUSUF magazine in its Monday 6 April edition, President Numayri says that he is not satisfied with the results and the slow progress of the Egyptian-Sudanese integration process and the bureaucratic burden that has been weighing it down for years.

Asked if Sudan had come under heavy Arab pressure to break off relations with Egypt after Camp David, President Numayri answers that this is not true. He adds that the crisis in the official Egyptian-Sudanese relations was the result of the attitude of the Sudanese public opinion and reaction to Camp David.

Numayri says that it had been agreed from the very beginning between Sudan and the Arabs that they would not raise the question of Sudan's special relations with Egypt with him. He adds that the Arabs respected this agreement to a large extent. This, he goes on, is in their interest because it gives Sudan the opportunity to play a role in restoring the Arab accord when the circumstances are ripe.

President Numayri answers in the affirmative a question as to whether he intends to make new efforts to bring about a reconciliation between Egypt and the Arabs.

Asked whether the Palestinians would agree to such a move, President Numayri says: This is no longer just a Palestinian issue. We have been calling it the Palestine question out of habit, but in actual fact it is now the Middle East question and it covers capitals such as Damascus, Riyadh, Baghdad, Beirut, Cairo and Tripoli. President Numayri says that to his regret some Palestinians do not realize this fact and deal with the Arab states apparently for the sole purpose of compelling these states to make sacrifices for the Palestine cause.

In his interview with ROSE AL-YUSUF, President Numayri says: We regrettably suffered from this in Khartoum. It was unfortunate for us that the PLO chose people to represent them in Khartoum who came to impose sacrifices on us for their cause. They forget that it is now our cause, that the fate now in the balance is the fate of the entire Arab nation, and that our share of risk and responsibility is perhaps greater than theirs.

CSO: 4802

OFFICIAL SUBMITS REPORT ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

JN091248 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Khartoum 9 Apr (SUNA)--In a report he submitted to the People's Assembly yesterday, Muhammad Sulayman, head of the foreign relations committee of the People's Assembly, appealed for expediting the opening of embassies in Mexico and Brazil, since these states are important in Latin and Central America and play a world economic role. He also called on Sudanese ambassadors abroad to establish parliamentary friendship groups with the parliaments of the states accredited to Sudan, as Sudan's ambassadors in London and Paris have done.

The report affirmed Sudan's firm stand on the Palestinian issue in defense of the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to return to their homeland.

The report praised President Numayri's moves on the international and African levels, particularly on the level of bolstering the Palestinian and Holy Jerusalem issues.

He affirmed that Sudan's unwavering stand on Israel remains as it is, adding that there will be no recognition of Israel.

The report supported without reservations the sincere realistic trend to bolster Sudan's relations with Egypt, since a special relationship links the two peoples and necessitates their cooperation to deter dangers threatening them and keep the eternal ties linking them strong and firm.

The report praised the developed relations with the African states and particularly with neighboring states.

The head of the committee expressed the hope that the good relations with Ethiopia and Somalia would lead to [word indistinct] the Ethiopian-Somali dispute.

The report cites the role played by the People's Assembly, adding that this assembly's role is to acquaint the world parliaments with the positive role played by Sudan in cooperation with the African states and in order to put an end to the Chadian crisis.

The report also cites developing relations of bilateral cooperation with Saudi Arabia and such other Arab Gulf states as Kuwait, the UAE and the Sultanate of Oman.

The report expressed satisfaction with Sudan's relations with the other Arab states.

CSO: 4802

CITIZENS WARNED OF 'NATIONAL SALVATION ARMY'

Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 26 Mar 81 pp 3-4

[Text] Khartoum, March 26, (SUNA)--Any Sudanese who attempts to take part in a Libyan-super power coordinated design that aims at enlisting Arab nationals, including Sudanese, in the so-called "National Salvation Army" will be denationalized and liable to face trial according to the State Security Law and other valid laws.

An authoritative source told SUNA that the Libyan move contradicts all international laws and conventions and reveals Libyan evil intentions directed against Africa and Arab nations.

"We want to draw our citizens' attention to this Libyan plot and warn them against the trap of Libyan temptations in order to carry out criminal designs," he said.

The source disclosed that the President of the Republic has decided to strip any Sudanese, who would join to the so-called National Salvation Army, of his nationality, put him to trial and subject him to any further penalties as specified by the security Act and other valid laws.

Since November last year the Libyan Arab Jamahiyriah, in complete complicity and coordination with a super power whose military bases are spread over Libyan soil, began preparing for an overall design directed against African and Arab countries.

The design takes the form of intervention in these countries' internal affairs either through direct invasion as what had happened in Chad or through stirring tribal and racial differences which constitute an outright threat to national unity.

The plot also intends to launch intimidating acts and physical liquidation which had already been materialized in a number of African and Arab countries to provide super powers with an excuse for intervention and turning the African-Arab region into a hot arena of international conflicts under the false motos of Arab unity and the Islamic African Empire.

The design was unveiled in a broadcast by Radio Tripoli in November last year in which the Libyan Army command urged Arab students, irrespective of their nationalities, to enrol at the Libyan Military Academy and join the so-called Arab Salvation Army.

The International press had also published Libyan-paid notices calling on Arab students and nationals to join in that army offering high salaries to exploit those who would be tempted by money to stage subversive acts against their countries and peoples.

CSO: 4820

SUDAN

BRIEFS

ENERGY PROJECT AGREEMENT--Khartoum, 22 Mar (SUNA)--Sudan government and the British Overseas Development Administration yesterday signed an agreement on the construction of a thermal power station at Khartoum North. The plant which will be built against 43-million sterling pounds, to be provided by the British government and 10 million Sudanese pounds will be completed March 1983 with an output of 60 megawatts. The station which is part of the Third Power Project will be executed by the British firm (M.E.I.). Deputy General Manager of the Public Electricity and Water Corporation signed for the Sudan while the Financial Manager of the M.E.I. signed on behalf of the Administration. [Khartoum SUNA DAILY BULLETIN in English 22 Mar 81 pp 6-7]

CSO: 4820

COMMENTARY REASSERTS NATION'S STAND

JN111553 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Apr 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] It is no coincidence for U.S. Secretary of State Gen Alexander Haig to come to the Middle East to try to liquidate the Palestine question in the name of confronting the alleged Soviet threat and for pressures and threats to intensify against Syria at the same time. The United States and the whole world know that to Syria and its struggler leader Hafiz al-Asad, the Palestine question is the main and central issue of the Arab world.

This is why whenever it tries to liquidate the Palestine question by enforcing surrender or imperialist theories--claiming that the danger to the area is not represented by the Zionist entity's aggressive and expansionist policy but by other dangers and calling on the Arabs and Israel to cooperate with it to avert this danger--the United States clashes with the firm, principled stands upheld by Syria and its leader Hafiz al-Asad.

It is not strange, therefore, that the way for Alexander Haig's visit to the area has been paved by the flareup provoked by the Phalangist gangs in Lebanon, a flareup which Israel immediately backed with quixotic statements and attacks and further attacks on South Lebanon. It is also not strange that the regimes of Husayn and Saddam Husayn have intensified their psychological warfare and propaganda campaign against Syria, to the extent of telling cheap lies as their claim that Iranian planes raiding Iraqi territory took off from Syria.

Furthermore, it is not strange for Zionist and reactionary circles in the world to cooperate in creating a big uproar and telling lies about Syria and for the U.S. Congress to demand the cancellation of the \$130 million appropriated for Syria in the U.S. budget. Syria has neither requested this sum nor does it have any say in proposing or canceling it.

The enemies of the Arab nation may intensify their pressure, threats and provocations against Syria, but one important fact must be clear to both friend and foe, just as it is clear to all the Arab masses: Syria, under the leadership of Hafiz al-Asad, will not succumb to pressure or fear threats. Its convictions will not be affected by outside influences and it will continue to hold the initiative in the area.

So long as it depends on its own power, its alliance with the Palestinian revolution and all the national revolutionary and progressive forces in the Arab world, the support and positive response of the Arab masses and its strong ties with all the enemies of imperialism, racism and Zionism in the world, Syria will continue to possess the national will to act independently and the ability to reply firmly to all the provocations, challenges and plots and to stop the U.S. march on the area.

When the great Arab leader President Hafiz al-Asad addresses the Palestine National Council tonight in Damascus, the world will hear the voice of the Arab masses. It will be certain then that Damascus has been, and will continue to be, Arabdom's heart, sword, shield and vanguard and that the Palestine question has been, and will continue to be, the central issue for Syria. Syria will defend this cause regardless of the sacrifices.

CSO: 4802

NEW AGGRESSIVE STANCE OF AMERICA IN REGION DEPLORED

Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 20 Mar 81 p 8

[Article by 'Ali al-Siwan: "The Ardent Defender of Terrorism"]

[Text] The United States has played its well known role in the international Security Council debates on Lebanon. So far, it has been obstructing the acts of the council, preventing the attainment of a resolution. While the other 14 members have reached unanimous agreement on a draft resolution condemning official Israeli terrorism against Lebanese and international units, America has not shrunk from brandishing the sword of the veto to scuttle the draft resolution. This is what it did on previous occasions on other positions where there was international unanimity on preserving international legitimacy — especially positions related to putting a limit on racist policies, either in "Israel" or in South Africa — policies which violate the foundations of international legitimacy.

So far Washington has given sufficient proof that it will use, or more accurately that it will abuse, the right of the veto against a draft resolution containing an indication that Israel is responsible for violence in southern Lebanon, resulting in the death of two soldiers from the Nigerian unit by Israeli artillery bombardment and wounding others along with them! Why? Washington says that there is reciprocal violence. It refers to the forces of the Palestinian resistance, even though it is not involved, in a formulation filled with an insistence on being overbearing, by stating that there is probable Palestinian violence!

This leaves no room for doubt that Washington is an actual party to the exercise of terror in southern Lebanon and that it has two gloves, one of them Sa'd Haddad, the other the army of "Israel."

However, what there is also no doubt is that the arena of American terrorism is much broader than southern Lebanon.

It is not hard or difficult to discover American hands in the detonation of the security situation inside Beirut itself, a situation that is time to occur whenever there appear the first signs of a relaxation and the strengthening of the legitimate Lebanese authorities on the horizon of the Lebanese stage or Syrian-Lebanese relations.

Nor is it hard or difficult to discover American hands in the terrorist operations being carried out against the security of citizens and the nation in Syria or in preparations for a Sudanese-Egyptian aggression against Libya.

None of this is more than the practical manifestation of a network of bases and fleets which Washington has deployed and through which it has surrounded vast areas of the Arab nation and adjacent regions and seas, with one single goal, which is to engage in terrorism against the Arab nation — terrorism which today, now that blatant military aggression is taking place, might remain this goal's only option.

If we look closely into overall American policy toward the world, it will be apparent that there is a deliberate American platform whose warp and woof is terrorism.

Reagan and his aides, especially Gen Alexander Haig, do not conceal this policy through it; they are trying to turn America into the ardent defender of terrorism in the international context, with the aim of salvaging awe for America, which has been rubbed in the ground by people fighting for freedom and progress in various areas of countries which have been the field of American acts of plunder, especially Vietnam and Iran in Asia, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Angola in Africa, and Nicaragua in Latin America.

American realizes that the rope is on the tractor.

What is going on in El Salvador is an example which inspires America's panic and consequently inspires imperialist terrorism.

The American insolence which is being displayed in the Security Council in causing the breakdown of international legitimacy is no more than an expression of America's panic at the flexing of the powerful arm of liberation and progress.

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CSO: 4802

INTERVIEW WITH JORDANIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AL-MUHAYSIN

JN161004 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Apr 81

[Interview with Hisham al-Muhaysin, charge d'affaires of the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut, conducted by an unidentified correspondent in Damascus on 14 April 1981 following Al-Muhaysin's "Release From Captivity"--videotaped]

[Excerpts] [Question] We are pleased to meet with Brother Hisham al-Muhaysin, the charge d'affaires at the Jordanian Embassy in Beirut, following Syria's fruitful efforts to bring about his release and his safe and sound return. We welcome him on your behalf in Damascus and on behalf of Syrian television. We tell him. Welcome here and praise be to God for your safety. Following a long absence, we can only give thanks to God for your safety.

[Answer] A thousand thanks to you, Brother.

[Question] Damascus is your second country, if not your first country.

[Answer] There is no doubt of this.

[Question] Actually, after the period of your captivity, it strikes the mind of every spectator and every citizen to want to know something about this period and about the nature of your treatment by the Lebanese National Confrontation Front. It would be nice if you would shed light on the nature of this treatment.

[Answer] Sir, I was abducted by the National Confrontation Front in Lebanon. I cannot but tell the whole truth; that is, I was well treated by the front's comrades after my dialogue with them during the first stages of my captivity, which lasted about 70 days. But during the first days--namely after my dialogue with the front's comrades--they realized that I belong to a family whose patriotism is well known in my country, Jordan. I repeat and reiterate that I was well treated by the comrades in the front during this long period.

[Question] The efforts exerted by Syria, namely by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, are well known. Syria exerted intensive and great efforts until these efforts managed to bring about your release and end your captivity. Please.... [interrupted by Al-Muhaysin]

[Answer] Dear Brother, during my captivity, I was informed of President Hafiz al-Asad's concern and of that of the officials in fraternal Syria. Therefore, I seize this opportunity to convey my warmest thanks and appreciation for the efforts. Particularly President Al-Asad's efforts, which were crowned with my release.

[Question] I cannot tell if you obtained any information during your captivity about the various and tendentious propaganda campaigns against Syria. These campaigns accused Syria of being behind your captivity. I would like to ask you... [interrupted by Al-Muhaysin]

[Answer] I hereby reiterate and confirm that I was held captive by the National Confrontation Front. It is purely a Lebanese organization. Syria had nothing to do with this action. During my 70-day captivity, I dealt with Lebanese youths and comrades. I did not see any Syrian element during this period. On the contrary, it was the Syrian effort, of which I know, that brought about my release. It was exerted by President Hafiz al-Asad, to whom I am indebted for this noble deed.

[Question] A popular delegation comprising vanguards of patriotic and sincere forces came from Jordan. The delegation came to Damascus to ask President Hafiz al-Asad to intervene and to exert efforts. As is known, these efforts were intensive even prior to the arrival of the delegation. This delegation asked the president to exert more efforts to bring about your release. Your brother Jawdat al-Muhaysin was a member of the delegation. Have you heard anything about this delegation?

[Answer] During my captivity, I was informed of this popular delegation which included my brother and its long meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad. I also learned about His Excellency the president's unequivocal undertaking to exert efforts to preserve my life. I learned about his efforts to look for me by using the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF], which are the legitimate forces in Lebanon.

[Question] I do not know how long you have been a diplomat, but I know that you are the charge d'affaires in Lebanon. Certainly, you have an idea, impression or a specific visualization about Syria's position and role. I hope that you... [interrupted by Al-Muhaysin]

[Answer] Sir, may I give the following details: I joined the diplomatic corps long ago. I was in Britain for 4 years. I also worked as an economic adviser in Lebanon from 1972 to 1974. I then joined the diplomatic corps and came to Lebanon in early 1975. I have been in Lebanon for almost 6 years.

As for fraternal Syria's role, I can say the following in order to throw light on the matter: Syria's role is actually represented by the ADF. This is an effective participation and a sacrifice on the part of Syria. This was a collective Arab decision. If I am to comment, I would like to say that all the voices should be silenced because the Syrian presence, represented by

the ADP, and approved by the Arab League. I believe that the least that can be said is that there is a big Syrian sacrifice in Lebanon.

[Question] In view of your diplomatic status, I am motivated to move to politics, that is, from private to public matters. As is known, the Middle East area and the Arab area are currently exposed to vicious plotting which is principally aimed at Syria. Also, this plotting is against the Palestine issue. Matters have become clearer now. In other words, Syria is now confronting the conspiratorial trend, whose basic pillar is represented by Camp David. In your capacity as a diplomat, can you throw light on the situation, and how do you analyze the situation and how do you view Syria's position toward this great challenge which it is facing?

[Answer] Despite my psychological condition in the wake of the captivity, I still cannot deny the truth that Syria is now in the arena of struggle as a result of the hardships facing the Arab nation. All the sincere Arab countries are asked to confront all the challenges, which regrettably are not easy ones. With all sincerity, Syria is regrettably alone, making the confrontation both on the political arena regarding the Palestinian issue and on the Lebanese arena, which cannot be dissociated from the Palestinian issue and consequently from the central Arab issues. Since the Palestinian issue is the central issue, I am convinced that Syria is confronting the plot to which the Palestinian issue is exposed at this serious stage.

[Question] I can tell that the campaign that was launched against Syria and that accused Syria of being behind your captivity is part of the big plot which is aimed at shaking Syria and keeping it from confrontation and at creating an atmosphere of distortion and deception about Syria.

[Answer] I reaffirm that Syria had nothing to do with this. On the contrary, I am indebted to the Syrian efforts for my new life. Therefore, the campaign of distortion will backfire on those who launched it.

[Question] Would you like to add anything?

[Answer] I have a hope and a wish: I want to convey my sincerest thanks and appreciation to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad for his undertaking on behalf of the delegation and which has now become a reality. I am now in good health and free, as you and the spectator can tell.

CSO: 4802

DEVELOPING IRAQI MOVE TOWARD WEST DEPICTED

Damascus TISHBUN in Arabic 16 Mar 81 p 9

[Article by Turki Saqr: "The Iraqi Regime and the American and Western Arms Deals"]

[Text] From the first days after the outbreak of the Iraqi-Iranian war, many people have been expecting that the Iraqi regime would use this war as a pretext for strengthening its relations with the West in general and the United States of America in particular. The people who expected this were naturally not taken in by the slogans emitted at the beginning of the war by the Iraqi regime, whose organs did not cease to repeat them day and night, because the declaration of war against the Iranian revolution (at a time when this revolution was founded on the basis of crushing the empire of the Shah, America's most important support in the region, and at a time when it extended its hand to the Palestinian revolution and declared its readiness to fight alongside this revolution, could mean only one situation, and that was helping America to bring down the Iranian revolution and destroy its dimensions of support for the Arab cause. Above and beyond that, Saddam's regime touched off the war at the climax of the crisis of the American hostages, which gave another indication that it was American hands which had urged it to take its revenge against the Iranian revolution for having brought down the biggest American base in the Middle East and to pave the way for Iran's return to the American umbrella again.

If we leave this aside and go back to the facts, we will find confirmation that the Iraqi regime is acting urgently and intensively to strengthen the bridge which connects it to the West and America, especially as far as military aspects go. The Iraqi defense minister recently disclosed that Iraq is intending to buy weapons and material from the United States of America; this appeared in a statement by that minister to the magazine AL-HAWADITH, which is issued in London, to the effect that the Soviet Union since the start of the Iraqi-Iranian war has imposed an embargo on supplies of arms for Iraq and that Iraq might make deals to buy arms from America. This statement by the Iraqi minister appeared after a series of signs indicative of the Iraqi regime's orientation toward the West and America, of which we might mention the following:

1. Alexander Haig, a few days after receiving the post of the American secretary of state, said that America had to bolster its presence in the Gulf area in order to support the client regimes of the West there, including the Iraqi regime, which he described as being oriented toward allegiance to the West.

2. In a speech he gave before a contingent of People's Army personnel when the Iraqi regime sent to the war against Iran, Saddam Husayn pointed out that Iraq would buy arms and equipment for billions from anybody whatever, even the black market, and that there was nothing to stop it. At the time, this statement was interpreted as the preparation for the conclusion of big transactions with the West for the purchase of arms.
3. An air bridge was set up between Cairo and Amman at the beginning of March to transport arms and material from Egypt to Iraq by way of Jordan. The news confirmed that this bridge was established on orders the American Embassy in Cairo gave to al-Sadat's regime with the backing of the Zionist entity. Although the Jordanian regime has denied this news item, a statement by the Iraqi defense minister recently confirmed it.
4. America has urged its western allies to supply Iraq with arms and equipment. That occurred following Alexander Haig's tour of capitals of Arab countries and his statements on the Iraqi regime's orientation toward allegiance to the West. A result of this was the transaction of French Mirage airplanes for Iraq.
5. America ceased its objections to the war vessel transaction between Italy and Iraq. These vessels had been anchored in an Italian port and Italy had been prohibited from delivering them to Iraq after it manufactured them, until recently when America urged that they be delivered to Iraq to take part in naval battles between Iraq and Iran, once the obvious superiority of the Iranian navy over the Iraqi navy in the war had been proved.
6. Since the beginning of the Iraqi-Iranian war, Jordan has been playing the part of intermediary and middleman in providing Western arms and material for Iraqi army units. News items mentioned recently that the Jordanian regime's role went beyond mediation with respect to arms to the training and preparation of about 15,000 Pakistanis who were sent from Pakistan to Iraq via Jordan to enter the war against Iran. It is well known that this could not happen without coordination with the United States and the Western countries.

What Do These Facts Mean?

They mean, simply, that one of the most important consequences of the war which Saddam had set off against Iran is that the doors have opened for the flow of Western and American arms deals to Iraq. What has been clear since the beginning of the war is that this is just the start of Iraq's metamorphosis into an American military buttress in the east of the Arab nation and Asia, and will complement American activity now underway to turn Egypt into an American military buttress in the west of the Arab nation and in Africa.

Saddam's regime started the war against Iran, knowing in advance — in the context of international equations, which had been clearly read — that this war would lead to mortgaging Iraq to the West and America, especially in the military context. Therefore, all the talk now on the part of the Iraqi regime of an orientation under the pressure of the need to obtain arms from the West and America is pointless and is to be rejected, if it is aimed at distorting the real nature of the suspicious relationship linking the Iraqi regime to the scheme of an American

settlement in the area. Apart from the grave economic consequences which Saddam's insane war against Iran will produce, these are consequences and results which will also result in Iraq's mortgaging itself economically to the West. The United States will be content to have Iraq tie itself to America militarily, as al-Sadat's Egypt tied itself to America previously. When we realize that the most important achievement of the movement of Arab revolution in the fifties of this century was the blow against the Western arms monopoly in some Arab countries — Egypt, Syria and Iraq — we can sense the gravity of what al-Sadat did in Egypt and what Saddam is now doing in Iraq.

It is probable that America is not content itself with sending arms to Iraq but will decide to establish military bases, including nuclear military bases, on its territory, and send rapid deployment forces, just as it is doing now in Egypt, where it has established a military nuclear weapons base in the al-Farafirah Oasis area and made an agreement with authorities in the Egyptian regime to permit the transit of American nuclear vessels through the Suez Canal, as well as building numerous ordinary military bases and sending American rapid development force units on the pretext of conducting joint maneuvers with Egyptian armed forces. When the Iraqi regime's steps hasten in that direction — which it appears they are doing — what can be left to connect it to the national cause, and what can remain to link it to the liberation slogans which it is falsely and slanderously raising?

Thus the slogans of liberation and restoration of usurped Arab rights in which the Iraqi regime has trafficked for a long time have turned into empty words concealing many great gambles on the future of the Arab nation, the least of which is the return of colonialism to the Arab nation, armed to the teeth with weapons and military bases, after the Arab masses had expelled it in the course of a severe struggle lasting more than 30 years.

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HUNGARIAN MILITIA VISITS, EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH REGIME

DAMASCUS TISHRIN in Arabic 16 Mar 81 p 2

[Article: "Hungarian Militia Delegation Stresses Hungary's Solidarity with Our Country's Struggle"]

[Text] Comrade Muhammad Ibrahim al-'Ali, commander of the People's Army, received the Hungarian delegation headed by Maj Gen Sandor Borbely, general commander of the Hungarian militia and member of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Labor Party, yesterday morning.

Attending the meeting were Hungary's ambassador to Syria and a number of officers in the People's Army.

At the beginning of the meeting Comrade al-'Ali greeted the guest delegation and wished it a good stay in the various areas of the country, as it became familiar with the most important achievements realized in Syria in the context of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general the fighting comrade Hafiz al-Asad.

After that, Comrade Ibrahim al-'Ali made a detailed presentation on the organization of the People's Army in the Syrian Arab Republic from its organizational and structural aspects; since the outset, it has been the backup of our army and commanding party.

Comrade al-'Ali added that the People's Army organization has assumed in full its role of preparing citizens to play their part in repressing the colonialist onslaught and standing against the imperialist schemes which the Syrian Arab Republic is exposed to.

Comrade al-'Ali went on to describe this organization's role and the tasks assigned to it in defending the country, defending the security of the revolution and helping to defend this country's economic installations.

The head of the guest delegation then spoke, giving thanks to the comrade People's Army commander for the valuable information he had presented in this regard.

The head of the delegation described the role of the Hungarian Labor Party, emphasizing the similarity in goals of the two organizations in protecting the masses' gains in the two friendly countries, on grounds that the enemy is the same and the goal is common, and hoped for further progress and exertion of self-sacrifice to serve the toiling masses in both countries.

Then Comrade al-'Ali spoke, referring to the fruitful cooperation between the two friendly organizations and parties and talking about the vicious imperialist attacks embodied in the gangs of Moslem Brothers to which the Syrian Arab Republic is exposed and which strike out at the plans and achievements of the revolution, and the way in which the country has managed, through its people's perseverance, to stand up to and eliminate this attack.

Comrade al-'Ali praised the socialist countries which are supporting Arab rights in standing up to Zionism and world imperialism.

Comrade al-'Ali also stressed the importance of the Friendship and Cooperation Agreement between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Soviet Union, referring to the importance of this agreement in moving the course of progress in our country forward.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the head of the Hungarian delegation stressed Hungary's solidarity with the Syrian Arab people in their stand against imperialism and reaction. The Hungarian military delegation had arrived in Damascus the day before yesterday on a 1-week visit to the country, by invitation of the People's Army command in the Syrian Arab Republic, in which it is to meet with a number of officials in the party and the government.

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CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

POLISARIO, MOROCCAN OFFICIALS--At 1430 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Mohamed 'Abd al-'Aziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front, who was accompanied by Mohamed Salem Ould Salek, information minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. The talks dealt with the general situation in the Arab homeland. Mohamed 'Abd al-'Aziz explained the situation and its developments in the Arab Maghreb. At 1900 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Mahjub Ben Siddiq, secretary general of the Union of Moroccan Workers, who was accompanied by Hasan Bizwi, the union's foreign relations secretary, and Hasan Ben 'Adi, the union's culture and information secretary. The meeting was attended by Comrade 'Izz al-Din Nasir, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party regional command member and chairman of the Syrian General Union of Trade Unions, and Comrade Mustafa 'Isa, the union's secretary of Arab and international relations. Discussions centered on the Arab situation and the progressive forces' role in consolidating Arab steadfastness and repulsing the hostile imperialist-Zionist onslaught, in addition to the role played by the Arab workers in this respect. Mahjub Ben Siddiq explained the situation in the Arab Maghreb. [Text] [JN121931 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Apr 81]

IRAQI COMMUNIST PARTY SUPPORT--Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad has received a cable of greetings and support from the Political Bureau of the Iraqi Communist Party. The following is the text of the cable: The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Iraqi Communist Party would like, on behalf of all Iraqi communists and their friends, to express its warm solidarity with steadfast Syria, under your leadership, in its courageous confrontation of all Zionist plots and impudent threats and the criminal provocations by the fascist Phalangist gangs in implementation of the plans of U.S. imperialism, which has dispatched its representative, Haig, to the area to supervise personally the implementation of conspiratorial provocations against Syria, the Lebanese people and the Palestinian resistance. By its steadfastness and courage, Syria has become the rallying stronghold for all the Arab national forces. This is why deviates from the pan-Arab line and those deeply involved in imperialist plans such as the criminal clique of Saddam Husayn are directing their arrows at Syria. While expressing our strong solidarity with brave Syria, we are confident that it will emerge triumphant from this battle thanks to the unity of its national forces, its alliance with the Palestinian revolution and the masses of the Lebanese people and their national movement and the strong ties of friendship and alliance with the USSR, the socialist bloc countries and the revolutionary forces in the whole world. Kindly accept our struggle greetings. [Text] [JN111328 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 Apr 81]

TALKS WITH JORDANIAN DELEGATION--President Hafiz al-Asad received at noon today members of the Jordanian delegation taking part in the Palestine National Council meetings. The meeting was attended by Sami al'Attari, member of the National Command of the Ba'th Party, and Comrade Hasan 'Aja', official in charge of political action in Jordan. During the meeting, a review was made of the current relations between Syria and Jordan and the political situation in the Arab region. In this regard, the president explained the developments in the situation and future expectations. He revealed the elements of the plot which is facing Syria and the Palestinian revolution. The members of the delegation expressed their high appreciation of the pan-Arab speech with which the president inaugurated the 15th session of the Palestine National Council. They expressed their admiration for Syria's principled and pan-Arab stands because they are a basis for the Arab confrontation line and for the defense of Arab dignity. The members of the delegation pinned great hope on Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad to confront the enemy plot and abort all the projects of liquidation that are aimed at the central Arab cause of Palestine. They expressed their gratitude to the president for his explanations of the Arab situation. [Text]
[JN131821 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Apr 81]

CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

OIL TALKS--Abu Dhabi, 14 Apr (GNA)--An official round of talks was held in Abu Dhabi this evening between a UAE delegation led by Dr Mani' Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, and an Irish delegation led by George Colly, deputy prime minister and energy minister. The two sides reviewed the situation of the current world oil markets, offer and demand and the possibility of developing bilateral cooperation in the various oil spheres. In a statement after the meeting, Dr Al-'Utaybah said that his country has shown understanding for Ireland's request to purchase quantities of oil directly through government companies in the two countries. He added that he had explained to the Irish deputy prime minister the UAE's viewpoint on the oil market situation and that the UAE had expressed readiness to cooperate in developing Ireland's oil sources. The Irish deputy prime minister and energy minister said that his country at present imports some 6 million tons of oil a year--120,000 barrels daily--most of which comes from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait through international oil companies. The Irish official expressed hope that a contract will be signed by means of which the necessary quantities of oil will be purchased by the recently established Irish National Company. On oil prospecting operations currently being undertaken by several oil companies in Ireland, the Irish deputy prime minister said that he is hopeful that oil in commercial quantities will be discovered there because the many surveys that have been carried out have been encouraging particularly those in the sea. [Text] [JN142114 Manama Gulf News Agency in Arabic 1940 GMT 14 Apr 81]

AGREEMENT WITH PHILIPPINES--Describing the achievements of the UAE in the fields of agriculture and fisheries as impressive and astounding, Mr Arturo R. Tanco, president of the World Food Council, hailed the enthusiasm shown by His Highness President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan and His Highness Shaykh Rashid Ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, vice president and prime minister of the UAE and ruler of Dubai, for the agricultural development of the country. Mr Tanco, who is also the Philippines minister of agriculture, accompanied by a team of experts, signed a protocol on behalf of his country with the UAE for co-operation in these two fields. The UAE minister of agriculture and fisheries, Mr Sa'id Ar-Raqbani, signed the protocol at the Dubayy Sheraton Hotel yesterday on behalf of the UAE Government. Thanking the Philippines team for visiting the UAE, Ar-Raqbani expressed the hope that the projects agreed upon between the two sides will be implemented speedily for the benefit of both the countries. The protocol will be renewed every 5 years automatically unless either side disagrees to it. One major area of co-operation will be fruit cultivation, particularly in the east coast and central region of the UAE. Steps will be taken for the setting up of nurseries for this purpose. One step to be taken immediately is to select a site for fish farming, and two experts will be here soon for the purpose. [Excerpts] [GF151351 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 15 Apr 81 p 3]

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

NORTH-SOUTH UNITY EFFORTS CITED

LDO21505 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 31 Mar 81 p 18

[Report on a statement made to AL-SIYASAH by YAR Socialist Arab Ba'th Party command member 'Abd al-Rahman Mahyub--date and place not given]

[Text] YAR Socialist Arab Ba'th Party command member 'Abd al-Rahman Mahyub has stated that Yemeni unity is a deep-rooted fact for the Yemeni people. He added: What we are now doing is restoring this unity.

In a statement to AL-SIYASAH Mahyub said that the Yemeni people were victims of British colonialism and the imamate rule which divided and fragmented Yemen. He said that the Yemeni people struggled for a long time to achieve independence in the south and to overthrow the imamate rule in the north and linked their struggle with the issue of restoring Yemeni unity.

He pointed out that when the revolution triumphed and a republic was established [in North Yemen] in 1962 and when independence was attained in the south, the Yemeni people hoped that Yemeni unity would be restored, but they were stunned when Yemen's division was consolidated by the emergence of two contradictory regimes having different political and economic structures and ideological tendencies. Mahyub added that in recent years these structures had deepened and that this led to the deplorable 1972 and 1979 wars. All this rendered the question of Yemeni unity very difficult.

In his statement to AL-SIYASAH Mahyub denied that genuine steps are being taken to achieve unity between the two sectors of Yemen. He said: "Various committees have been set up, but these committees are mere formalities and are incapable of deciding on even the most trivial things." He described these committees as "tranquilizing committees."

He emphasized that unity requires hard struggle which can only be staged by sincere unionists. He said that there are national forces in both sectors of Yemen which, through continuing struggle, can restore unity in the future and overcome the present obstacles.

Mahyub denied that the Ba'th party has joined the National Front, which opposes the regime in San'a' and which has Aden as its headquarters. He said that the rumors to this effect are no more than a "bad joke." He also denied the existence of a so-called "Ba'th organization."

Mahyub attacked the National Front and held it responsible for what has been described as "subversive actions" in North Yemen.

In his statement to AL-SIYASAH Mahyub denounced foreign interference in North Yemen and urged that the area be kept out of foreign conflicts. He said: "We denounce foreign presence in any form in the Arab territories because it poses threats to Arab sovereignty and the area's safety and security."

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